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intended chiefly, if we mistake not, to determine the benefit of captain Shanks's very ingenious project of sliding keels. It was undertaken by lieutenant Grant, at the command of government, in the *Lady Nelson*, a sloop of war of not more than sixty tons burden, and a complement of not more than fifteen men. Lieutenant Grant, however, reached the settlement in New South Wales; and, agreeably to an order received while at the Cape of Good Hope, sought for, and succeeded in exploring, the strait which separates Van Diemen's Land from New Holland; this he afterwards tracked a second time, we believe in 1801, being the first who ever passed through Bass's Strait from the west. From some unaccountable neglect on the part of government he was now deprived of his command, and compelled to work his way home as well as he could, which he accomplished in an old Spanish prize ship as far as the Cape of Good Hope; whence he embarked for England by the permission of sir Roger Curtis, which he reached in 1802, after an absence of two years and a half. The second voyage to which we refer seems to have been a consequence of the preceding; for its object was to determine upon the propriety of opening a settlement in Bass's Strait, which separates Van Diemen's Land from the main body of New South Wales, at a spot pointed out by government, from which several advantages appeared likely to result. It was performed by lieutenant Tuckey, in the *Calcutta*, a king's ship, originally built for the East India company's service, accompanied by the *Ocean*, a hired merchant ship. The channel was cleared towards the end of April

1803: The point of destination was reached after about six months sailing, but the spot was found by no means appropriate to the object conceived by government: it was hence immediately relinquished, and Mr. Tuckey reached Rio de Janeiro on his return home, with a cargo of ship-timber taken in at Port Jackson, about ten months only after he had quitted it in pursuit of his voyage. These adventures are by no means without interest, although they cannot be expected to add largely to our stock of geographic information. The maps and charts, so far as they extend, will be found useful, and we have no reason to question their accuracy.

The sciences of geography and astronomy have furnished us with but little that is entitled to particular specification. Mr. Gleig, who has on several occasions been successfully employed on elementary treatises, has published a brief "Introduction to the Use of the Globes," which may be advantageously had recourse to, and has the merit of offering a variety of easy and instructive problems. Mr. Friend, we are pleased to see, has continued, and means to continue, his very admirable explanations of the variable appearances of the heavens, under the modest title of "Evening Amusements;" they are calculated for different evenings in the course of the current year, and are restrained to this period. The plan is able, the solutions easy, and the whole is interspersed with a multitude of collateral and important remarks. We have also seen a strange and confusedly written pamphlet, intitled "Newton refuted: a geographical, nautical, mechanical, and mathematical View of the Universe," by W. Parkes.

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This writer has studied his subject, but unfortunately without the smallest knowledge of the mathematics; he is hence perpetually falling into errors, of which he himself is not aware. It was this pretender to a subversion of the Newtonian principles, if we mistake not, who, a few months ago, nearly frightened several of our citizen wharfingers out of their senses, by undertaking to calculate and predict an enormous tide which was to overflow London Bridge. The same cause deceived him in this expectation as is for ever leading him astray in the book before us.

"Elements and Practice of Mensuration and Land-Surveying, adapted both to public and private Instruction; with an Appendix, containing Rules for measuring Hay-stacks, Marl-pits, and Canals; by Joseph Becket." A book contrived to be manufactured out of preceding books on the same subjects, with little addition of useful matter, and the omission of much that ought to have been inserted. In this measurement of hay-stacks, our author has exchanged the *steel-yard* for the *mercet's-yard*; and consequently given directions for the purchase of hay in the same manner we have been hitherto accustomed to buy cloth. There may be *novelty* in this; but we see nothing else to recommend it. There is through the whole work too much of the *cant* of science; of definitions, theorems, and problems; of trigonometry, circular segments, and equidistant ordinates; and too little of the spirit of practical application and utility.

In the department of perspective and architecture, we shall first notice, that Mr. Atwood, who lately published a very valuable "Dissertation on the Construction and Property of Arches," has

now added "A Supplement" to this tract, which appears chiefly designed to afford answers to several of the queries drawn up and transmitted by the committee of the house of commons, appointed to consider of the propriety of constructing an iron bridge over the Thames at London. There is much ingenuity in a variety of these answers; but we think this able mathematician completely fails in his efforts to restore the old and exploded doctrines of the *wedge-system* instead of the *vertical system*.

We have largely feasted on the banquet prepared for the public by Mr. Alexander in his "Costume of China, illustrated by forty-eight coloured Engravings." Mr. Alexander was an attendant upon lord Macartney in his late embassy to the court of Peking, and had consequently peculiar advantages, of which he has not failed to avail himself while pursuing his favourite profession. We have hence presented to us delineations of almost every object that is worthy of notice in this singular country; and at all times exhibited with high spirit and feeling: we behold what progress it has made in naval architecture, which, by the way, appears to have been but little for several centuries past: we notice its public monuments, its pagodas, its palaces, its mansions of more modest dimensions. We have also many highly entertaining representations of its inhabitants, in different dresses, and engaged in different occupations. The plates are accompanied with a verbal description, which proves that Mr. Alexander, if not so complete a master of his pen as of his pencil, needs never be afraid to employ it when occasion requires.

From

From Mr. Gilpin we have received a few "Essays," accompanied with drawings, tending to elucidate the author's mode of executing rough sketches, and the principles on which they are composed, which may be examined by the student, for whom they are chiefly designed, with much pleasure and profit. And Mr. London and Mr. Bartell have offered us, in their respective works upon ornamental plantation, various hints that are worthy of attentive consideration. Many of the remarks, by the former, on gaining and embanking land from rivers or the sea, may be very advantageously carried into execution; and the plans and proposed scenery of the latter for ornamental cottages, together with his observations calculated to afford comfort and convenience to the labourer and his family, display an elegant taste and a feeling heart.

Numerical arithmetic has been almost barren of production during the period to which our labours are circumscribed. In connexion, however, with many subjects of which we have just taken a cursory survey, we ought not to forbear noticing Mr. Phillips's new edition of "Crosby's Builder's new Price Book," which, though too much and too slavishly a copy of one or two preceding publications upon the same subject, is nevertheless a valuable work, and possesses several useful additions. Mr. Taylor has also published a little volume upon "The most necessary Parts of the Science of Numbers," which he has endeavoured to adapt, and not without success, to the capacities of the learner, and the lower orders of artisans and tradesmen.

We advance to the departments of nautical and military tactics. In

the first of which we have received an easy and familiar guide in Dr. Mackay's "Complete Navigator;" a work which we can honestly recommend to all who are desirous of acquiring a general knowledge of the praxis of naval science, and are already in some measure acquainted with its technical terms. It commences with the principles and questions respecting latitude and longitude; in succession follows an account of the log, of the compass, the art of sounding, the tides, Gunter's scale, and an illustration of the more general principles of geometry. We afterwards meet with an explanation of the different modes of calculating, in reference to the plane, traverse, parallel, middle latitude, Mercator's, oblique, and current sailing. To these subjects is subjoined an easy explanation of the construction of charts, and of the instruments employed for this purpose.

In the present soldier-like æra it is not to be wondered at that military tactics should prove the source of a multiplicity of publications in a great variety of forms; and we have hence met with books of this character under the changeful names of "Essays," "Views," "Reflections," "Memoirs," and "Mentors." To examine them all would be totally out of our power, and equally inconsistent with our plan. The "Instructions by Gen. Wimpfen," translated by lieutenant-col. Macdonald, appears to us one of the most valuable works, as issuing originally from a hand of high professional character and extensive experience, and as naturalized into our own language, by a gentleman in every respect qualified to do justice to it. To an equal, or nearly an equal praise is major Cuninghame's pamphlet entitled,

titled, which he has denominated "The Tactic of the British Army reduced to detail." It is designed to offer an epitome of the science and principles of war, and to unite in one view the various evolutions of the battalion, brigade, and line; and to point out their mutual combinations and advantages when on actual service. The different manœuvres are here satisfactorily explained, and the explanations are assisted by a variety, we had almost said a profusion, of copperplates. Major Aldington's "Essay on the Construction and Advantages of Light Artillery acting with Infantry," though embracing a more limited scale than the two preceding publications, is entitled, so far as it extends, to a proportionate share of approbation. His proposal of arming the rear-rank with pikes, or, as he denominates them, "loaded spears," of fourteen pounds weight, and "a sufficient length to fall three feet beyond the charged bayonet of the front rank, supposing the line formed three

deep," is well worthy of consideration. A weapon of this sort would unquestionably render the powers of the rear-rank infinitely more available than upon the common plan; yet the spear, as here directed, seems to indicate a weight which would render it cumbersome and fatiguing. But all these volumes pre-suppose some knowledge of the first principles of manual exercise, and consequently are only to be consulted by those who are trained for the ranks. Of humbler capacity, but by no means devoid of real utility, are the "Observations," by serjeant Wedderburne, on the "Exercise of Riflemen," and the "Movement of Light Troops in general;" a little treatise well worthy of perusal: as is the "Exercise of Great Guns, as practised by the Royal Artillery:" an elementary manual composed by a "Volunteer," and satisfactorily evincing that he has been no defaulter in the service he has patriotically imposed upon himself.

### C H A P. III.

#### MORAL AND POLITICAL.

*Containing History, Travels, Politics, Ethics, Education.*

**I**N the general class of publications to which we are now advancing, the reader will find, more than in any other, that under the various ties which at present connect one part of the world with another, and the prevailing taste and fashion for literary pursuits, it is not in the power of warfare, with all its restrictions and vindictive

rage, its actual miseries, and more numerous alarms, to blockade and seal up the history of any country from the keen eye of political observation, or break in pieces those magic types by which such history is rendered palpable and universal, is propagated to every age and every climate. Literature is unquestionably a luxury, and mankind

kind may exist without it; and, like every other luxury, it has been heavily taxed and burdened for the maintenance and continuation of war: but whoever will take the trouble to examine the list of our annual publications during the course of the last two, or the last ten years, and compare them with the annual catalogues of any preceding years of peace, will find that it is a luxury which has still flourished, notwithstanding all the burdens which have been imposed upon it: and whoever will distinctly notice such of the books in the chapter upon which we are now entering, as relate to the transactions of foreign countries and climates, will perceive, at the same time, that, notwithstanding the perseverance of hostilities, the commerce of literature has suffered but little diminution, and has been conducted upon a scale at least equal to any other description of commerce, however fortunate or privileged.

We hail the appearance of the trusty and venerable Froissart, in a new and splendid version from the pen of colonel Johnes, of which, however, the first is the only volume which can lay claim to our present notice. It is published in quarto, and, when completed, is to extend to four volumes of perhaps not less than eight hundred pages each, the book before us exceeding this number. We lament this part of our translator's plan, because at the price of four guineas for each volume, it is impossible that the work can ever obtain so extensive a circulation as we wish it should, or as its intrinsic merit entitles it to demand. Froissart, as a chronicler, has been long regaining a reputation which he ought never to have lost; and

the immediate subjects of his chronicles, as well as the immediate period they comprise, must ever render him a most welcome companion in the house of every true-born Englishman. Where is the breast that is not fired by the mere recollection of that wonderful series of princes, and their marvellous, as well as courteous achievements, which constitute the history of the house of Lancaster? Froissart was a contemporary with a great part of them, and, though a foreigner, a warm admirer of their virtues and gallantry. His work, which embraces the transactions of England, France, and various adjacent countries, extends from the latter part of the reign of Edward II. to the coronation of Henry IV., forming in many points one of the most important, as well as one of the most interesting epochs in English history. The version before us is in every respect new, and in some respects rather *too new*, we mean particularly in those instances in which the terms of antient civility and complimentary address, which can only be correctly rendered into antique English, are modernized into the new-fangled phraseology of the novels and drawing-rooms of the present day. How far, on this and various other accounts, it might have been more advantageous, upon the whole, for our editor to have given a *revisal* of lord Berner's earlier version of the "Chronicles," than to have taken the trouble of a translation in every respect his own, we will not undertake to determine. We have been too much entertained with the work as it is, to be disposed to offer a single objection of any consequence, and have found that, while the corrections introduced into the com-  
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mon copies from manuscripts of unquestionable authority are, in many instances, important; the additions now introduced for the first time, from similar resources, are equally curious and valuable.

Mr. Maurice is still persevering indefatigably in his "History of Hindustan;" of which the first part of the second volume of its modern epoch is now before us. As the history approaches our own times it advances progressively in interest, and the author is enabled to relinquish fable for fact; or, where he is still obliged to have recourse to conjecture, to support his conceptions by testimonies and authorities that few will be inclined to dispute. We have here the same dignity of style, the same force of observation, and morality of induction which characterize the earlier volumes, and which cannot but induce us to long ardently for the completion of this bold and comprehensive undertaking, and to wish that the learned historian may reap all the reward to which his erudite labours entitle him. It has been objected to him, that he pretends not to be acquainted with the autochthonous *languages* of the country he describes: it is enough for us, however, that he is acquainted with its *literature*; and that he has studied it in sources of information far less suspicious than a few indigested and unconnected fragments of Parsi or Sanscrit; whose accuracy has long been questioned by the ablest critics, and in whose expounders, and especially in relation to the latter, no man of sense has for one moment thought of confiding, since the knowledge of their various attempts to deceive such recondite scholars as Sir William Jones and Mr. Wilkins, and the success with

which we now know that their efforts were occasionally accompanied. Where, however, it has been necessary to consult the vernacular historians of junior languages and more modern times, Mr. Maurice has discovered no disinclination to avail himself of their narrations, through the medium of the best and most established Latin, French, and English versions; by which the reader is put into possession of all the benefit that could possibly have resulted from the profoundest personal acquaintance with Persic and Arabic. The part now before us extends from the irruption of Timur into Hindustan in 1398, to the death of Selim, who assumed the surname of Jehanquaire, or conqueror of the world, in October 1627; and consequently embraces the first duplicature of the Cape of Good Hope, by Vasco de Gama, and his important discovery of the passage to Asia by the Eastern Ocean.

Whilst thus briefly surveying the political history of India in its general outline, we ought not to forbear noticing, that the late war between the English East India Company, and Dowlut Rao Scindia has been ably elucidated, and circumstantially, as well as authoritatively detailed in a quarto volume, intitled "Notes relative to the late Transactions in the Marhatta Empire." It is dated from Fort-William, Dec. 15, 1803; and, from its appendix of official documents, and several well executed engravings of the different battles in which the English forces were engaged, is possessed of equal value for future research and immediate perusal. The wisdom of the British Indian government in the commencement and prosecution of the Mahratta war is here more convincingly

vincingly detailed than we have seen in any other publication upon the same subject. We have only to regret that the account of the two French leaders De Boigne and Du Perron is so extremely circumscribed in respect to their first connexion with the family of Madajee Scindia, and the high degree of internal influence and authority they were enabled to possess in consequence of this event. This suppression is in some measure supplied, however, by a small pamphlet upon the same subject, but we apprehend by another hand, intitled "Brief Remarks on the Mahratta War, and on the Rise and Progress of the French Establishment in Hindustan;" in which the adventurous history of these successful chiefs is detailed at some length, and apparently from good authority.

Numerous as have been of late our publications upon the subject of Malta, the current year has furnished us with two additional histories; the one, a voluminous work in three quarto volumes, intitled "Antient and Modern Malta," from the pen of M. Louis de Boisgelin, a knight of the order of St. John; and the other a mere "Epitome" of the general history of the island; and so denominated by Mr. Wilkinen. As a compressed statement of the most material facts that relate to the island, regularly digested in plain intelligible language, the latter may conveniently be resorted to by those who have neither money to purchase, nor opportunity to study the more comprehensive narrative of M. Boisgelin. But for those who are not thus unfortunately circumscribed, and who at the same time do not happen to possess M. Verri's previous history of the island,

M. Boisgelin has formed by far the best book upon the subject in question. He is, nevertheless, too desirous of exculpating his brother knights from the heavy charges which we are still afraid have been but too justly advanced against them—those, we mean, of gross avarice and peculation when in the possession of supreme power, and of treachery to the Maltese themselves upon the surrender of the government to Buonaparte. Whether the continuance of this island in the hands of the British administration may, or may not, be of high moment towards the future security and peace of Europe, is a question which we cannot at present stay to discuss; but it requires no discussion to believe that the resumption of the Maltese government by its former sovereigns, subject more especially, as they must be, to the capricious interference, or rather perhaps to the perpetual influence of France, would be the heaviest evil that could happen to the inhabitants themselves; who, in reality, appear to contemplate such an event in the very same point of view. The work before us is divided into two parts; of which the former presents us with an account of the various ports and cities both of Malta and Goza, their monuments of antiquity, the present state of their trade and finances, and the different governments to which they have been progressively subject; and the latter, with a history of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, from their first establishment in Malta till the beginning of the nineteenth century; together with a minute statement of the events which preceded and accompanied the capture of the island by the French, and its conquest by the English.

Whilst

Whilst voyaging upon the shores of the Mediterranean, it becomes us to notice the "History of Athens," furnished us by Sir William Young; a publication that rather aims at distilling the spirit of events, than offering the full flow of detailed circumstances in their regular order and succession. The learned baronet effectually proves himself sufficiently versed in the transactions of this elegant and high-spirited people for the task he has undertaken; and in the volume before us he has made a valuable addition to the vast pile of English literature.

In relation to the same quarter of the world, but to a different period of its history, we have received a very interesting, and in some respects a very valuable publication in an anonymous volume, entitled "An accurate Account of the Fall of the Republic of Venice, and of the Circumstances attending that Event." This "accurate account" pretends to be a translation from an Italian work which was printed, and on the point of being published, at the period of the victory of Marengo; in consequence of which catastrophe the whole impression fell into the hands of the conqueror, who instantly and tyrannically suppressed it. We cannot answer for the truth of this assertion; but we cannot avoid perceiving that, whether true or not, the author has furnished us with a very animated and authentic history of the republic it is his object to celebrate—and a history which cannot be too generally perused by our own countrymen at the present period, when the ferocious, but too successful trampler upon the liberties of the Venetian territories, is still menacing the British islands with the same fetters of ignominy

and degradation with which he has so ably contrived to subjugate the islands of the Adriatic sea. Venice might have saved herself, and with a small exertion, in the first instance, if she had not been cursed with the most timid, temporizing, cowardly administration that perhaps ever disgraced any nation on the face of the earth. She had an Aloys Querini, but she had not an Aloys Reding: she had a people who valued the constitution and liberties of their forefathers, and who, like the hardy inhabitants of Switzerland, were forward to shed their blood in defence of their native rights; but she had old women, in the shape of men, for her cabinet or council of Savi, and the country fell a sacrifice to their weakness and pusillanimity. The absurd system of an *unarmed* neutrality was obstinately persevered in, and even the offer of a Russian alliance rejected without hesitation.—Still lingering in the same unfortunate regions, we have next to notice, from the pen of Mr. Card, "Historical Outlines of the Rise and Establishment of the Papal Power." Upon this subject, however, we have lately had so large a flow of publications, that we perceive nothing peculiarly new or interesting. The intention of the author is to exhibit to the Roman Catholic priests of Ireland, to whom the work is expressly addressed, a series of intolerable abuses and tyrannies, as perpetrated at different times by the tiara. To such a history, however, we apprehend that neither the Irish, nor any other Catholic priests can be strangers: they have too often felt their galling burden not to know them, as well as not to pant ardently for emancipation. To the honour, however, of the Irish clergy, and of the Irish Catholics in



in general, it should be stated, a fact which does not seem sufficiently adverted to by our author, that from them the Roman pontiff has been seldom able to obtain as abject a submission as from the members of most other Catholic churches; and that with all its exertions, the Vatican has never been capable of exciting civil hostilities for the mere purpose of the religion they profess. Mr. Card, we perceive, has been induced to publish a second edition of his "History of the Revolutions of Russia," upon the merits of which we enlarged in a prior volume. We notice some few variations, but none of any essential moment; the chief that has occurred to us is the greater compression of the entire work.

"A compendious View of Universal History, from the Year 1753 to the Treaty of Amiens in 1802, by Charles Mayo, LL.B." This is a bulky and comprehensive work, extending to not less than four large quarto volumes. It is a chronicle rather than a history; and the very numerous, and, at times, unnecessary divisions into which it is broken, destroy all the interest which would otherwise result from events that are perhaps begun to be related, but which are abruptly broken off, because unfortunately the period to which the author limits himself is expired; and we are consequently compelled to circumnavigate the world, and sail over not less than a hundred, or a hundred and fifty pages, whose intermingling occurrences effectually drive the preceding narration from our recollections, before we recover the country from which we first started, and re-enter upon the thread of its history. As a book of reference, however, the present work will be found highly useful. The transactions are given impar-

tially; and the dates, so far as we have examined them, are correct. Our principal objection is to the plan, which we think might be easily improved.

From the labours of Mr. Heriot we have received a "History of Canada, from its first Discovery," which seems to combine as much instruction and entertainment as a province thus remotely situated from us, and thus barren in political events, can afford to the investigator of its climate, its soil, and colonial establishment. Perhaps the most extraordinary feature that characterizes it is its steady attachment to the British throne, at a period when every other province had confederated to throw off its dependence; more especially when it is considered that, from the variation both of its religion and language from those of the parent country, it was possessed of less natural sources of attachment than were exhibited throughout every other part of British America.

We have received a work of more importance, as well as originality, from the hands of M. Volney, now translated into our own tongue, intitled "A View of the Climate and Soil of the United States of America," which, as proceeding for the most part from actual inspection of the country, falls rather within the classification of tours or travels than of closet history. The force and spirit, the individuated remark and boldness of conception, which characterize M. Volney's writings in general, are common to the volume before us; and we have also to observe, which we do with pleasure, that it is less depraved by atheistic dogmata and allusions than many of his prior productions. Whether the author will ever possess leisure or inclination to carry into effect the

the whole of his plan, as at first projected, we know not: the present volume, however, only contains a part of it. Originally it "embraced the soil and climate of the country, the number of its inhabitants, their distribution over the territory, their division into different kinds of labour, the habits or manners resulting from their occupations, and the combination of those habits with the ideas and prejudices derived from the parent stock; the causes and incidents which led to the independence of the present United States; the changes produced by that great revolution; the consequences which, in the natural course of things, may be justly expected from it; and the reasons which induce him to discourage Frenchmen in particular from settling in America." If this comprehensive system, the first part only is attempted in the present volume, in conjunction with much multifarious and incidental marks as seemed naturally to arise from the subject. Of these, some of the most important are: dissuasions from emigrating to America; and they are such as will, in the main, apply to our own countrymen as well as to those of France. The chief inconvenience the volume appears to us to be minute partitions, which renders almost every page independent of every page, and destroys the confidence and harmony of the whole.

We have been entertained with Mr. Kinnen's "Tour through British West Indies." It is a dry, cheerful book of travel, describing the various islands, and occupations conducted amongst them, as they actually occur, without launching out into speculative notions either political or agricultural. Barbadoes, according to

this account, and indeed most of the first cultivated colonies, appear to be less fertile than formerly; they have been worked with too little fallow. In some few parts of this and several other islands the plough has been introduced, and is highly welcomed by the negroes. The Antigua planters seem to be possessed of the greatest portion of humanity; or, in other words, to regulate their conduct by the most liberal policy. The turkey-buzzard, or native carrion-crow, is as much honoured in Jamaica, as was ever the white goose in ancient Rome. It is found of the utmost consequence in cleansing the country from putrefying animal substances, and its existence is hence protected by an express law of the island.

The traveller, however, to whom we are most indebted for literary contributions during the current year is Mr. Barrow, who has favoured us with the best account we yet possess of the interior of the Chinese empire; and a volume, of equal merit with his former, on the Cape of Good Hope, and the adjoining country. We must be allowed a few lines to descant as briefly as possible on the merits of each.—It is not long ago that we had to notice this very accurate and ingenious writer's first volume, containing an account of his travels into the interior of Southern Africa, and many of our readers may perhaps recollect that it received from us all the approbation to which its great share of intrinsic merit entitles it. That volume, however, was published at a period when the important possession of the Cape was, by the unfortunate treaty of Amiens, about to be transferred to the hands of the Batavian republic. It was then re-

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signed without a murmur; yet fearful that some symptoms of disapprobation might ensue as soon as the general gratulation had subsided upon the restoration of the common blessing of peace, it was the object of the existing ministry to depreciate the real value of the Cape of Good Hope as largely as of the island of Malta. On the renovation of the war, however, and especially upon the return of Mr. Pitt and lord Melville to the ministry, the possession of the Cape began to be differently estimated, and a plan was early projected for its recapture. The motives which influenced our author to be silent upon the subject of the actual value of this colony to the security of our Indian trade at the period of publishing his first volume, now no longer existed; he was left at full liberty to unbosom the real feelings of his heart; and one principal object, therefore, of the book before us, is to demonstrate the importance of this station to the different European powers as a naval and military dépôt; as a point of security to our own East Indian commerce and settlements during the continuance of warfare, and as a territorial acquisition and commercial emporium in times of peace. From this account it should seem that the Dutch settlers themselves were by no means anxious that it should be restored to their native country; and what is far more surprising, that our own East India company expressed no desire to Mr. Addington, to retain it in their possession. Our author describes the race of Hottentots as by nature extremely benevolent and gentle, and the Caffres as plain in their diet and honest in their dealings.

Mr. Barrow's "Travels in Chi-

na" are designed to notice chiefly those subjects which have been entirely omitted, or but slightly adverted to, by sir George Staunton, but which are nevertheless well worthy of record. Mr. Barrow was in employment in the same embassy, having been private secretary to lord Macartney. His appointed post of residence, during the continuance of the embassy at Peking, was in the imperial palace of Yuen-min-Yuen; his apartments were mean and uncomfortable, but the liberty he was allowed of quitting them for the purpose of visiting any part of the capital whenever he chose, abundantly compensated for the want of interior accommodations. The information collected by our traveller is for the most part of considerable importance, and the anecdotes with which he has tessellated his pages are equally entertaining and instructive. Among the curiosities communicated by the embassy, as presents from his Britannic majesty to the emperor, was a collection of portraits of the most illustrious or distinguished of our own countrymen; and of these one was a print of the late duke of Bedford, from a picture by sir Joshua Reynolds, taken when the duke was a boy. The emperor, highly pleased with this present of portraits, had given express orders that the names, titles, and other distinctive marks should be expressed in Chinese respectively under every individual; but nothing could exceed the surprise of the Chinese secretary, when, coming to the portrait of the duke of Bedford, he was told to describe him as a *Tagin*, or *great man*, and hereditary legislator of his country; that a *boy* could be a *great man*, and be *born* a legislator, were propositions so paradoxical

adoxical to the secretary—while reflecting on the number of years of the closest application that is requisite in his own country to qualify a man to pass his examination at the very lowest order of state officers—that he could by no means enter into any explanation offered him; and positively refused, even at last, to give him the title of *Ta-tai*, or great man, asking if the English thought the emperor of China was so stupid as not to know the impossibility of a *little boy* having attained the rank of a *great man*.

China nothing is social; they never associate for friendship, for time, or for religion: the women are bought and sold for wives without any option of their own, and are afterwards condemned to the most menial offices, and the vilest drudgery; and infants are exposed, at the will of their fathers, and of course perish in prodigious numbers. It is tacitly considered a part of the duty of the population of Peking to employ certain persons to go their rounds, at an early hour in the morning, with carts, in order to pick up such bodies of women as may have been thrown into the streets in the course of the night. "No inquiries are made; the bodies are carried to a common pit without the city walls, which all those that may be found, as well as those that are dead, are said to be thrown promiscuously." Not less than two millions, upon the average, are thus removed from the streets of Peking, and interred every morning. It is wonderful that a disposition so naturally ferocious, or cruel, should thus totally divest the Chinese of the noble feelings of nature, and render them worse than brutalized by the force of depraved habit alone. The Chinese appear to have made

little proficiency in arts and sciences during the last two or three centuries, and in some respects to be less generally informed now than in earlier æras. They are a far less adventurous and colonising people than their ancestors, who probably founded settlements at Ceylon, and even at the Cape of Good Hope; traded up the Persian gulf as far inland as Egypt; and, in the opinion of M. de Guignes, extended their commerce to the north-west coast of America. Their language, though simple in its roots or keys, in consequence of the complexity of its combinations, is by no means well calculated for the printing press; and yet, from this same fact of the simplicity, or rather paucity, of its keys, so many different ideas, sufficiently distinguished by writing, are expressed by the same sounds, that they are obliged to have perpetual recourse to their literal characters, to explain their own meaning. At a very early period they were acquainted with the mariner's compass, as they were also with the art of making gunpowder; the former of which, if not the latter, was probably received into Europe from this quarter. Their religion, at least that of Confucius (*Cong-foo-tse*), is simple pantheism: the court religion, however, is that of the Tartar Lama. Their knowledge of geography and astronomy is trifling and childish; but their power of imitating whatever is presented to them in mechanics and handicraft is wonderful, and peculiarly characteristic. A Chinese at Canton succeeded in making a watch, as soon as ever he saw one, being furnished with nothing more than the spring, which he admitted he could not imitate: and a clergyman of the embassy, whose cas-

sock was so extremely patched and darned that he could no longer wear it with decency, having applied to a tailor of the same place for a new one, received shortly afterwards the new cassock, with every darn and patch so accurately true to the old pattern, that nothing but the greater strength of the new cloth could determine the one from the other: the tailor having, unluckily, conceived that the darns and patches were so many emblems of the clergyman's profession. The population of the Chinese empire is calculated, and perhaps correctly, by our author at three hundred and thirty-three millions; yet nearly a fourth part of the territory still remains to be cultivated.

Embracing a considerable range and variety of climate, over a part of which we have already travelled with the preceding author, we have next to notice the "Transactions of the Missionary Society" in one volume octavo: *transactions* which, notwithstanding the religious information they communicate, are, with regard to all purposes of real utility, more replete with an account of the customs and manners of the tribes to which they occasionally relate; and, of course, more appropriately arrange themselves under the present chapter than under that which is immediately devoted to theology and theological concerns. In this last chapter our readers will find that we have already adverted to the transactions of another society assuming nearly the same denomination; we mean the society for missions to Africa and the East. Yet these associations, though professing a similar object, are altogether distinct in their foundations and discipline: the latter being supported by members of the

established church alone, and the former by dissenters of different denominations in conjunction with a large body of such members of the established church as are denominated evangelical or methodistic. The methodistic institution is by far the elder of the two, and probably, by a laudable and beneficial stimulus, gave birth to that of the established church. We have formerly noticed its earlier transactions in the islands of the South Sea: the volume before us is a continuation of its history in that quarter, and commences a most interesting account of its mission to Southern Africa. The Otaheitan mission, however, we almost regard as at an end: there are no people, perhaps, so indisposed to imbibe any kind of knowledge that may chance to be offered them by foreigners: and provided the terrible and progressive depopulation which has been exhibited among them for the last thirty or forty years should continue in an equal proportion, if the missionaries themselves should remain for twenty years longer, there will be scarcely an Otaheitan to instruct. During capt. Cook's visit they were calculated at two hundred thousand: in 1797 Mr. Wilson estimated them at less than one hundred thousand; the transactions before us reduce the census to eight thousand; and Mr. Turnbull, whose work will not regularly fall within the scope of our notice till next year, computes them at a still inferior number. For this gradual reduction various reasons are assigned, of which a few only are enumerated in the volume before us: the principal we believe to be wars between themselves and the neighbouring tribes; a tremendous epidemic, which not long since

since raged with peculiar mortality; the abominable crime of infanticide, and the paucity of females to males; a paucity so extreme as that the latter are supposed to exceed the former in the proportion of ten to one. Whence we may naturally infer that infanticide is far more frequently perpetrated upon female than male children. The only chance of producing actual benefit among the natives, of destroying this infamous practice, and extending the blessings of civilization, is by the exercise of compulsion. A fort and a few cannon would do more real service in a month than all the preaching and exhortation of the missionaries in an age. Whether government may think it right to enter into such a project we know not: but we well know that the project is at this moment before it, and we believe the projector himself to be in every respect qualified for the superintendence of such an experiment. The apparent heaviness and inaptitude of the Otaheitan proceeds from habitual idleness alone: we have seen individuals of this nation who, having once resolved to become active and alert, have made an easy, as well as considerable proficiency in many of the most useful branches of the arts; and there are not wanting at this moment one or two Otaheitans of this character within the boundaries of our own metropolis.—The mission at the back of the Cape of Good Hope has been considerably more successful than that at Otaheite: it is headed by a Dr. Vanderkemp, a Dutchman by birth, whose life and fortunes are as singular as any we have of late met with. In the earlier part of his life he was an infidel and a debauchee: but at all times a man of ardent disposition and inflexible fortitude. Upon his

conversion, therefore, which is quaintly related, it is not to be wondered at, that he should be as resolute in the profession of his new faith, as he had previously been in exposing what he conceived to be its absurdities. He is singularly qualified for the task he has undertaken, and has been fortunate enough to obtain, in several of his coadjutors, men of the same zeal and energy as his own. The privations to which they have voluntarily subjected themselves, and the dignified offers which, in consequence of their virtuous and disinterested deportment, they have received and have refused, as conceiving the acceptance of them incompatible with the line of duty to which they have devoted themselves, would have done honour to the proto-martyrs. Here, however, as well as in Otaheite we find nothing but the passion of terror capable of producing any effect. Vanderkemp, like the missionaries at the former station, seems, in the first instance, to have been desirous of operating by the force of the gentler affections. But the idea that God is love appears to have had no effect whatever in either case. Vanderkemp, whose comprehension is superior to that of his Otaheitan colleagues, was determined to change the theme; he introduced the criminality of original sin, the guilt and infamy of every man out of a state of regeneration, the certainty and excruciating agony of the eternal torments which are prepared for mankind, and which nothing but the salvation of the gospel can free them from. This had such an effect that Hottentots, Caffres, Boschemans, all, from a variety of places, sent the most pressing messages for instructors to teach them their duty, and inform

them in what manner they might flee from the wrath to come. "What I am about to relate," says Kircherer, one of the missionaries at the present station, "will probably appear to some readers perfectly ridiculous, but it is a fact that we were always obliged to have a bottle of vinegar on the table for the relief of those who actually fainted under alarms of conscience, and powerful convictions." The whole population of Caffraria, supposing it to be equally inhabited with the parts surveyed by the South-African missionaries, they calculate at thirty-eight thousand souls: but the present writers differ in some measure in describing the character of the Caffres from their character as reported by Mr. Barrow: for while the latter tells us that in their deportment they are open and manly, hospitable, good-humoured, and benevolent; the former decidedly represent them as arbitrary, selfish, and cruel, from the king to the most despicable subject: that they rob, and often murder all strangers, and uniformly destroy their own sick and infirm: that when one of their own females is in labour every one hastens away, and the poor woman is left without assistance; and that the moment they perceive a person in danger of being drowned, they rather run from him or throw stones at him, than press forward to assist him. It is difficult to reconcile accounts thus glaringly contradictory.

The Cape of Good Hope has also furnished us with another and a valuable description in capt. Robert Percival's "Account" of this colony. To captain Percival we are already indebted for the best history at this time in our possession of the island of Ceylon; and in our last retrospect we paid him

the tribute of gratitude which is most justly his due. The volume before us is the result of a two months' residence at this settlement in the course of his passage to India, and of an equal period upon his return. It does not pretend to penetrate deeply into the interior of the settlement, being chiefly devoted to a description of Cape Town itself, and the country immediately adjacent, the customs and manners of the Dutch settlers, and a statement of the real importance of this position to the eastern commerce of Great Britain. In all these points our author is well worth consulting. His account of the regular and soldierlike conduct of the Hottentot corps, so wisely employed in our service while the colony appertained to Great Britain, is highly to their credit, and perfectly concurs with the representation of Mr. Barrow in rescuing them from the character of a brutalized and besotted race. A few incidental strokes of natural history introduced into the same volume, will also be found of real benefit to the zoologist.

France, in hostility as she is with us, and perhaps is long likely to be, has still furnished us, and, if we have not been misinformed, is still likely to furnish us, with a variety of descriptions, in different styles, and relating to different subjects. The current year alone has offered us, in translation or original English, not less than four separate works: Dr. Maclean's "Excursion," Mr. Yorke's "Letters," and "Travels," by Mr. Holcroft and Mr. Kotzebue. Of these the first includes the period between 1801, and the latter part of 1803, and extends to some other parts of the continent as well as France. It offers us also a succinct narrative of the unjustifiable detention of our countrymen

countrymen as prisoners of war. The descriptions presented to us in the course of this excursion are rather spirited outlines than finished pictures: and they are multifariously interspersed with the author's opinions upon medicine as well as upon politics. With respect to the former he seems to have little belief in the existence of contagion in any case; and so firmly persuaded was he of the contrary in the instances of the Malaga fever and the plague, that he made an earnest and voluntary offer of his personal services, first of all to the court of Spain, to determine whether he could not expose himself to the Malagese without infection; and when this could not be accepted, to the French and English governments for an opportunity of trying the same experiment in relation to the plague, either directly in Egypt, or, by importation, in the Levant. In regard to his politics Dr. Maclean tells us what, if we could believe it, would be a heart-reviving consolation indeed, that there is no prospect that Buonaparte can much longer continue to sway the government of France: that he is unpopular in every class of society, and that his downfall must take place shortly, which, though we have too little reason to hope it, may God of his infinite mercy grant, &c. &c.

Mr. Yorke's "Letters" are confined almost exclusively to the French capital. They offer little that is new either in description or speculative opinion: and appear chiefly written to prove that the author, having at length become as great a truant to Jacobinism, as he was a few years ago to monarchy, has now returned to principles of sound and just policy, and would be glad to accept of some

employment under government, to which, by his re-conversion, he thinks he is amply entitled.—The "Travels" of Mr. Holcroft and M. Kotzebue are of a different description, and far more instructive as well as entertaining. Paris, however, is here also the chief, in reality almost the only, object of attention, although the first writer professes to give an account of his journey through Westphalia, Holland, and the Netherlands, and the second of his journey from Berlin through Switzerland. They also exhibit a similar tint of sentimentality—though we perceive far more of the copyist of Sterne's manner in Mr. Holcroft than in M. Kotzebue, and on this account we prefer the latter, as the more original writer of the two. There is also in Mr. Holcroft a sort of settled and uniform pre-determination to deteriorate every thing he meets with, as though he were anxious hereby to compensate, in some measure, for the different light in which he surveyed every revolutionary object and procedure a few years ago. He may in this manner perhaps reconcile himself to his *own conscience*; but it will never, we apprehend, be admitted as an indemnification of vicious opinions or practices *in foro humano*, that the man who was in one extreme yesterday has run into an opposite extreme today. In M. Kotzebue we trace no such preconceived plan of a perpetual set-off, and he is hence far more correct and easy in his delineations: yet the remarks of Mr. Holcroft are often well worthy of attention; and if the descriptions of the former be most sprightly and natural; the reflections of the latter are most brilliant as well as most important.



The "views," "walks," and "descriptions" which have been published, relative to our own country, within the scope of the current year, are many of them rather local or county histories and archæologies than regular tours or travels; a class of productions which more naturally arranges itself under the ensuing than the present chapter. There are several however of the comprehensive character, which more properly appertain to the section before us, and which we now proceed to enumerate.

The principality of Wales has occupied by far the greatest and most successful proportion of attention from our domestic tourists and travellers: and hence we have, 1. the "Scenery, Antiquities, and Biography of South Wales, from Materials collected during two Excursions in the Year 1803," by Mr. Malkin; an elegant and well-written quarto volume, in which the author seems to have accomplished the greater part, though not *quite the whole*, that he has undertaken; for his *biography* is just as imperfect as the term itself is incorrectly employed in the title-page. He has, moreover, enriched his publication with a variety of excellent, accurate, and highly-spirited plates. 2. "Journey into South Wales; through the counties of Oxford, Warwick, Worcester, Hereford, Salop, Stafford, Buckingham, and Hertford, in the year 1799, by George Lyscomb, esq.:" an octavo volume, written in an affected style, and more conspicuous for the abuse it bestows on one or two societies of reviewers who have been unfortunate enough to dispraise some earlier production of the author in the same walk, than for any pecu-

liarity of interest in the different descriptions of which the work consists. 3. "North Wales: including its Scenery, Antiquities, Customs, and some Sketches of its Natural History; delineated from two Excursions through all the interesting Parts of that Country during the Summers of 1798 and 1801," by the Rev. Mr. Bingley, Mr. Bingley was a pedestrian tourist, and, from the frequent incorrectness of his style, we should suspect not only that the greater part of the two octaves before us were written during his excursions, but that he occasionally *over-taxed* himself, and wrote beneath the influence of fatigue. He has, nevertheless, contrived, with the casual assistance of antecedent tourists, whose services are only acknowledged in the lump, to furnish us with an entertaining and agreeable book. He chiefly fails in his natural history: and is unquestionably mistaken with respect to the literal characters of the Cymri. We do not find that either of these writers has been fortunate enough to meet with any branch of the original Druid hierarchy, which we remember Mr. Davies affirms, in his Celtic Researches, to be still in existence in the more concealed and central of the Welch fastnesses, still employing their old Gomerian alphabet of sprigs of trees. 4. "Letters written during a Tour through South Wales in the Year 1803, and at other Times." This epistolary description is from the pen of the Rev. Mr. Evans, formerly of Jesus College Oxon, to whom we have been already indebted for a valuable delineation of the northern half of the principality, communicated, also, in an epistolary fashion. Mr. Evans has ably executed a task

for

for which he appears peculiarly qualified, if classical learning, elegance of taste, animation of style, and a competent knowledge of national antiquities can constitute qualification.

Scotland has been considerably less fortunate in literary and scientific travellers than Wales. Though several who have made excursions towards this part of Great Britain have pretended to communicate their thoughts to the press, the only publication which is any way worthy of our notice is the "Sporting Tour" of colonel Thornton, a gentleman better known on the turf than in the regions of literature; yet who, in the quarto we now allude to, comprising an excursion through the northern parts of England, and great part of the Highlands of Scotland, has, in his own language, contrived to *sport* a book which cannot be glanced at without amusement by any person, and which may perhaps become a *favourite amusement* with many. Col. Thornton is no indifferent delineator of picturesque scenery,—and, if not learned enough for the *professional*, he is at least learned enough for the *gentleman writer*. But when recounting the success of his beloved diversions—of fishing and hawking, of sailing and horsemanship—he is highly instructive and animated; it is impossible not to partake of his sports, nor to enter into his own spirit and gratification.

Of the trips, tours, or excursions to different parts of South Britain, the chief that require our notice are, an anonymous "Tour in Teesdale;" Mr. Hutton's "Tour to Scarborough;" Mr. Pennant's "from Alston-Moor to Harrogate and Brimham Craggs;" Mrs. Wakefield's "Family Tour;" and Mr. Evans's "Picture of Worthing." The first, though in most

respects inoffensive, is entitled to little praise or commendation of any kind: the second is as free and easy, as garrulous and diffuse, as Mr. Hutton's preceding efforts in the same line of authorship: the third, though presented to the world, by an *anonymous* editor, as a posthumous production of our late excellent naturalist and antiquarian, has no pretensions to his general merit, and offers various internal proofs that it never proceeded from his pen: the third, which is designed for children, is an useful and entertaining compilation; and extends its inquiries over England, Scotland, and part of Ireland: and the fourth, which is a mere guide to Worthing, Arundel, and Shoreham, may be a pleasant piece of furniture in the parlour window-seats of these places, but has no pretensions to travel further.

In the department of politics Ireland has claimed and obtained the largest share of public attention; and we shall hence notice first of all those productions which are devoted to an indagation of this part of the united kingdom. We have formerly spoken in terms of general approbation of Mr. Plowden's "Historical Review of the State of Ireland," although we could not but perceive that a part of his argument was open to attack, and that his personal feelings had occasionally hurried him beyond the line of moderation—as his system had surpassed that of political expediency. The severest assault which he seems to have sustained, proceeded from one of the writers in the British Critic, who was so much pleased with his own performance, or so much flattered by his friends upon its merit, as to reprint the observations which he had introduced into  
this

this journal, in a separate form, and offer them to the public under the title of "Strictures" upon Mr. Plowden's work on "A Justification of the Conduct of the English Government in that Country from the reign of Henry the Second to the Union of Great Britain and Ireland." These strictures are ably written, as well in point of diction as of a profound and masterly knowledge of the subject; yet, though we have been highly gratified by perusing them, we have by no means been convinced. The author may perhaps attribute our un-conversion to the force of prejudice and predetermined opinion; for our own parts, however, we ascribe it to the intractability of the cause in which he is engaged:—as we have already observed, he is a dexterous artist in his own profession; but his subject is neither manageable nor malleable; handle it how he may, it still continues rough and stubborn—still destitute of ductility and polish. Liberal concession was never found injurious to the Irish people in a separate state, and never will be found so now that they are united with Great Britain. There are some personal asperities in these strictures which we cannot but wish had been omitted: they evince a spirit of party rather than a desire of cool and rational investigation.

"Correspondence between the Right Hon. Lord Redesdale, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, and the Right Hon. the Earl of Fingall." Conducted as this correspondence has been, we are sorry that it ever commenced: and consequently we are still more sorry that it was ever published. How it came to be published it is useless now to inquire—Report that

is so often apt to err, and which we, therefore, trust *does* err in the present instance, has offered a clue to unravel this mystery which is not the most honourable to one of the parties. The appointment of Lord Redesdale to the very high official situation which he at present fills, was, we believe, productive of great satisfaction, in the first instance, to the catholics of Ireland; and we believe it was with the liberal view of producing satisfaction that his appointment was determined upon. It should seem, however, from every thing that has occurred since, that a man may be a most excellent lawyer and profoundly versed in jurisprudence, without being an excellent theologian, or deeply instructed in controversial divinity; that the knowledge of statutes and reports does not make a statesman, or liberality of heart necessarily generate perspicacity or comprehension of mind. Lord Redesdale has drawn his acquaintance with the Roman catholic religion from impure and partial sources: sir Richard Musgrave has been studied instead of lord Petre or sir John Thockmorton: his lordship knows of no distinction between catholics and papists; he has not sufficiently adverted to the solemn protest and declaration which were some years ago accepted by the English government on the part of the English catholics as a fair and satisfactory profession of their faith, and has since, with scarcely any alteration, been tendered, but unsuccessfully as to the object immediately in view, by the catholics of Ireland to the imperial Parliament. It is hence that lord Fingall has by far the advantage, in the correspondence before us, over the lord chancellor:—and an advantage which, we regret to behold,

hold, has been productive not of conviction, but of irritation, and unfriendly asperity of style. The situation of lord Redesdale has by no means answered his own expectation or that of the Irish community: he is, in truth, altogether isolated, being as little supported in his opinions by the lord lieutenant (Hardwicke) as he is by the catholic clergy—and his recalc has been more than once on the point of taking place upon his own application. We lament that a man so truly excellent should have been thus peculiarly unfortunate. The grand question, however, is for the present, we apprehend, at rest: and we trust that if his lordship still consent to remain in office, he will for the future experience less disquietude than he has hitherto experienced.

M. Plowden, whose late work, though warmly controverted by some, was zealously espoused by the many, and who has too much ardour of heart to remain a silent spectator either of the political events that have since occurred, or of the personal attacks which, as we have already noticed, have been levelled against him, has brought forwards a fresh justification both of himself and the cause in which he has engaged, under the title of "A Postliminious Preface to the Historical Review of the State of Ireland;" in which he severely criticises not only the author of the "Strictures" upon his Review, who had reason to expect a few hard blows, but the conduct and correspondence of lord Redesdale; the remarks upon which last, however, are not of any great importance. The postscript, if not of more value, is, at least, of more curiosity, as containing some singular communications between

the writer himself and lord Sidmouth, when chancellor of the exchequer, upon the subject in question.

The chief pamphlets which we have noticed upon the same topic are; "Reflections on the Policy and Justice of an immediate Emancipation of the Catholics, by the late Lord Petre." "Considerations upon the Necessity of discussing the State of the Irish Catholics in the ensuing Parliament, by James Mason, Esq." "Thoughts on the Present State of Ireland," published anonymously. "Observations and Reflections, by Robert Stearne Tighe, Esq." "A Description of the Condition and Manners of the Peasantry of Ireland, such as they were between the Years 1780 and 1790, by Robert Bell, L. L. B." "An Inquiry into the Causes of popular Discontents in Ireland, by an Irish Country Gentleman." And a "Letter to the Earl of Wycombe, from Mr. Miles, on the present State of Ireland." These different pamphlets relate to various grievances, and, in great diversity of style and merit, point out as various modes of relief. The emancipation of the Irish catholics, from the disabilities they yet lie under, would not, from any thing that is here offered to us, benefit the poorer, and consequently the more numerous classes, in the smallest degree imaginable. From laws which have been progressively passed in their favour, they already possess by far the greater number of the rights of citizenship in common with their other fellow-subjects: and, if they be debarred from the exercise of the legislative function, they possess the right of suffrage, and election, and a power of accepting any office of emolument that does not exceed the value of

## DOMESTIC LITERATURE.

estimating at a low rate the benefits that would result to him from emancipation. It is, says he in reply, but a little that we ask : and if it be but little to ask, it is but little to give : why refuse us this little ?—Whatever, therefore, be the miseries and the wretchedness of Ireland, it does not appear from any of the pamphlets before us to result in any great degree from the present established system of religion ; and consequently that this general wretchedness would not be much, if in any degree, remedied by emancipation. Mr. Bell, and Mr. Tighe concur in attributing this general wretchedness to the ignorant and degraded state of the peasantry ; and the former has entered into an extensive and able examination of the present state of public instruction amongst them, resulting from the variety of chartered schools instituted and endowed for this laudable purpose ; and has pointed out a variety of gross abuses which demand extensive and immediate correction. A liberal and judicious attention of the legislature to this department might do something ; but the grand evil, as it appears to us, is one which the legislature cannot remedy : we mean a defect in population and wealth. This is an evil which time alone can radically cure, and which we have every reason for believing that it is actually curing. Ireland can grow a vast abundance and surplus of grain and other commodities ; but she has no roads, in many of her most fertile provinces, by which her harvests can travel to market, and no markets for them even if she had roads. As her population increases, she will be rich in towns and accommodated with highways ; her productions will rise in value ; and

the means of disposal will be multiplied as well. The author of the "Causes of popular Ireland" enumerates the causes, the union will be taken place : but in our opinion, and if the duty in the remarks offered. In the present State suggestion is thrown perhaps, under the circumstances of the case advantageous to ; that is, to exempt from the payment of tithes all the peasantry (and v Protestant as well ?) extreme poverty are subjects of relief tax. The Christian is not of this world tentions to the public for its support governments : and indigents, these will in uncultivated to be too poor wards the expense there seems great emptying them from the charges of the

The subjects of national defence has some portion of Colonel Hanger's published "Reflections on the Invasion ; and the author, "Thoughts on the Defence of the United Kingdom," in which he has given some hints on the subject, however, do what that needs to be done. Mr. son's "Hints on the United Kingdom," voted to the House of Commons, comprehended the mark. Mr. or the Love

the means of disposing of them will be multiplied and facilitated. The author of the "Inquiry into the Causes of popular Discontents in Ireland" enumerates, as one of these causes, the union which has lately taken place: but most unjustly in our opinion, and if there be any solidity in the remarks we have just offered. In the "Thoughts on the present State of Ireland," a suggestion is thrown out, which perhaps, under the existing circumstances of the case, it might be advantageous to attend to: and that is, to exempt from the oppression of tithes all those of the *catholic* peasantry (and why not of the *protestant* as well?) who from extreme poverty are deemed proper subjects of relief from the hearth tax. The Christian religion, which is not of this world, has less pretensions to the pocket of the public for its support than civil governments: and if these miserable indigents, these wretched labourers in uncultivated bogs, be admitted to be too poor to contribute towards the expenses of the latter, there seems great reason for exempting them for the present from the charges of the former.

The subjects of *invasion* and *national defence* have still attracted some portion of public attention. Colonel Hanger has hence published "Reflections on the menaced Invasion; and the Means of protecting the Capital." An anonymous author, "Thoughts on the National Defence:" in neither of which, however, do we perceive any thing that needs to detain us. Dr. Dickson's "Hints to the People of the United Kingdom," which are devoted to the same topic, may be comprehended under the same remark. Mr. Friend's "Patriotism; or the Love of our Country," de-

dicated to the volunteers of the united kingdom, is a useful little book, containing examples of the most distinguished acts of patriotism furnished us by antient or modern history, interspersed with remarks that often give them a forcible and ingenious application to the present period.

"Egeria; or Elementary Studies on the Progress of Nations in Political Economy, Legislation, and Government." The title of this book and much of its contents should claim for it the arrangement it here possesses; but the style in which it is written, the dramatic character at which it aims, and the lofty visions it unfolds, might demand for it an introduction into our next chapter. It is published anonymously; and consists of sixteen dialogues, or *studies* as they are denominated, between real characters now no longer in existence; and in this respect is an imitation of lord Lyttelton's Fontenelle's, or Wieland's Dialogues of the Dead. The subjects discussed are those enumerated in the title-page; and the ideas communicated are often bold and forcible, impressive and novel. But there is a sort of studied obscurity, a mysticism both of language and manner; which too frequently pervades the thread of conversation, and produces so much delay and perplexity, as to render it scarcely worth the trouble of unravelling.

"Strictures on the Necessity of inviolably maintaining the Navigation and Colonial System of Great Britain, by lord Sheffield." His lordship is rather a powerful reasoner than a luminous and accurate writer: yet the pamphlet before us is entitled to much attention; although, in many respects, it evinces too close an attachment to

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the old navigation law projected and partially enforced as early as the reign of Richard II., but not completed till the 12th of Charles II., and which his lordship regards as the trident of the British Neptune, as the chief if not the sole cause of our naval superiority. That this superiority may be ever maintained is the warmest wish of our hearts; but whether in reality it be the result of the legislative interference here referred to, or of the insular shape of the country, in connexion with the spirit of maritime adventure which it has almost immemorably evinced, is a question upon which so much may be said on both sides, that we will not venture upon a decision in the present place. The arguments advanced in justification of the practice by M. Gentz we felt incontrovertible at the time of reading his very able and elaborate examination: yet that some relaxations might take place in the navigation act, which would be highly favourable to our own system of colonization is, we think, sufficiently proved by two pamphlets which have been written in answer to lord Sheffield, and are entitled to the most respectable attention: the one by Mr. Jordan colonial agent for Barbadoes, and the other by Mr. Cork commercial agent to the corporation of Liverpool.

The war still continues to be a fruitful supply of the press. "The Justice and Policy of the War with Spain," has been attempted to be demonstrated by one anonymous writer, who does not employ the whole or even, in every instance, the chief of the arguments which might serve his purpose, had they occurred to him: while the author of "Cursory Remarks" has given us a "Brief Appeal to the

Honour and Conscience of the Nation upon the Necessity of an immediate Restitution of the Spanish Plate-ships;" an appeal warmly and eloquently urged, but in opposition to the opinions of the best writers on the law of nations; whether Gentz, Grotius, Vattel, Puffendorf, or Barbeyrac. It is in fact, a question rather of generosity than of strict political justice; of national magnanimity than of moral equity. Sir Robert Wilson, in relation to the internal defence of our own country, has published an address to Mr. Pitt that is well entitled to attention. It is denominated "An Enquiry into the present State of the Military Force of the British Empire, with a View to its Organization." The author is a decided enemy to every system that does not favour the *thorough-bred* soldier: the militia is possessed of but little potency; our volunteers of none at all: and consequently the only part of our armament on which we ought to place any dependence is the *regular* army. "An Englishman," in a "Letter addressed to sir Robert," has observed, that his regulations in respect to the volunteers differ but little, notwithstanding all he has urged against them, from the arrangements that actually exist: while "A British Yeoman" in other "Remarks on Sir Robert Wilson's Enquiry," thinks that the volunteers have been too severely handled by the gallant knight, and their abilities far too much depreciated. The system which has since been introduced by Mr. Pitt so closely approximates the plan proposed by the first of these writers, as to render it unnecessary to enter further into the subject.

The department of finance has been by no means overlooked or neglected.

neglected. Lord Lauderdale, in his "Enquiry into the Nature and Origin of public Wealth," has exhibited a volume which contains many wholesome truths and much practicable wisdom: he evinces, however, too much attachment to the French speculatists, and, in his zeal to point out Mr. Pitt's defects, is incapable of discriminating his unquestionable abilities. The disparity of exchange between London and Dublin has given rise to various publications. Mr. Foster of Lincoln's-inn has examined it with much shrewdness of conception and perspicuity of language, in an essay intitled "On the Principle of Commercial Exchange," to which he has subjoined an "Enquiry into the practical Effects of the Bank Restrictions," which are conceived to be equally injurious to the property of the public and the independence of the bank itself: while Mr. Boase in a "Letter to the right honourable Lord King," has undertaken to defend the conduct of the directors of the banks of England and Ireland; while he at the same time offers many useful, but some highly problematical remarks on the cause of the great rise of the exchange between Dublin and London; and his own system of equalising it. This system we would expatiate upon if it were not rendered in a very considerable degree nugatory by the excellent regulations which have of late been proposed by that truly comprehensive patriot and perspicuous statesman the chancellor of the Irish exchequer (may we yet thus denominate Mr. Foster?); and which, as they have been for some time legally adopted and acted upon, bid fair to annihilate much of the difference complained of, in a short period. An anonymous au-

thor of "Desultory Observations on the Property Tax" has exhibited more of special pleading than of comprehensive finance. His complaints concerning it generally are for the most part irrelevant, but he has succeeded in pointing out several defects and extraordinary flaws which might perhaps pose and puzzle our commissioners, but would scarcely be allowed available to the objectors. Mr. Frend and Mr. Coad have endeavoured to supersede the use of this unpopular impost, as well as of every other part of our present system of taxation by schemes of their own, which we are afraid would give us the exchange of a less for a greater evil; and consequently leave us rather to lament than congratulate ourselves.

"A concise Statement of the Question regarding the Abolition of the Slave Trade." While this important question is still occasionally introduced before the British legislature, it is but just to all parties that the various arguments which continued inquiry and conversation may multiply on the one side and on the other should be condensed and offered in a collected form to the public. The writer before us, professedly adhering to the views of those who would promote the abolition of the slave trade, has well and forcibly arranged, in his statement, the facts and reasonings that may best subserve the general purpose. We cannot but wish success to the cause he has so ably advocated.

"An Attempt to remove Prejudices concerning the Jewish Nation, by Thomas Witherby." This volume is rather political or ethical than theological; though it largely partakes of the last. It is universally an apology, and in many cases



cases a vindication, of the Jews. It examines the conduct they have evinced, and the sufferings they have sustained from the period of the destruction of the temple. It palliates the charge of usury, which has so often, and at times so absurdly, been urged against this people: and it exhibits them as free from the vices of lukewarmness in the religion they profess, of hypocrisy, dishonesty, idolatry, idleness, and debauchery. It affirms, in consequence, that they are entitled to far more political favour than they have hitherto possessed in any Christian country; and, lastly, that the Christian church itself will ultimately become in a very considerable degree judaized, and that its professors will esteem it an honour to make pilgrimages once more to Jerusalem, which will re-ascend it all its pristine glory. The work is written in the dialogue form; it exhibits much candour and good intention; but a variety of untenable arguments, a diction unornamented, and a style diffuse and desultory. The Jewish community have now no reason to complain: the asylum and equality of privileges offered and secured to them by law in the Russian empire, will render it for the future their own fault if they submit to undue degradation and extortion in any other countries.

In noticing the bishop of Landaff's sermon preached before the Society for the Suppression of Vice, we entered in some measure into a survey of the conduct of this institution; and asserted that we had some hopes that in the course of the present winter it intended to direct its anathemas towards the great and the fashionable, as well as the poor and the miserable. On perusing the "Address to the Pub-

lic" which it has presented in the course of the current year, we have more reason than ever to wish that such intention may be realized. For amidst the *six hundred and twenty persons* whom we are here told it has brought to conviction for profanation of the sabbath-day, we do not find a single instance of persons of this description; although it is well known that the higher orders are quite *as guilty* as the lower, the characters punished exclusively consisting of publicans, and petty shopkeepers.

As the system of reward is generally as influential, and infinitely more beneficial than that of terror, we have far more pleasure, we confess, in accompanying in their transactions, the "Society for bettering the Conditions of the Poor," whose fourth volume of Reports is now before us. We perceive in these reports some small degree of unnecessary deviation from their professed object, but nevertheless many valuable communications, and a steady and ardent desire to communicate comfort and happiness.

Education, considered as a science, has been less lavish of productions in the course of the year before us, than in the course of several that immediately preceded it. The most valuable and impressive volume we have met with, and which we recommend to be put into the hands of every boy who is designed for public or polished life, is "The late Lord Chatham's Letters to his Nephew, the Father of the late Lord Camelford." These letters display the skill of a master; of one well versed in human life; and who knew how to prize what is truly estimable before what is merely glittering and brilliant. There is in them a soundness of judgment, a purity of heart, a man-  
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ness of piety, a familiarity, but at the same time an elegance, of style which we have seldom met with in the same equality of union; and which were well entitled to the success with which they were originally attended. They are edited by Lord Grenville, dedicated to Mr. Pitt, and introduced by an excellent and highly finished preface. —Mrs. Charlotte Smith has published, in two small volumes octavo, "Conversations for the use of Children and Young Persons;"

which may be perused with pleasure and profit: they are chiefly devoted to subjects of natural history, and are occasionally enlivened by specimens of beautiful poetry. Miss Edgeworth, in three volumes duodecimo, has also made an acceptable present to the public in her "Popular Tales" intended principally for the benefit of persons in middle life, and hence consisting of characters drawn almost solely from that class of society.

## C H A P. IV.

## LITERATURE AND POLITE ARTS.

*Containing the Transactions of Literary Societies, Biography, Antiquities, Philology, Classics, Poetry, Drama, Novels, Tales, and Romances.*

WE begin, as usual, with a notice of the current volume of Philosophical Transactions published by the Royal Society of London: and feel peculiarly happy in having to repeat every part of the encomium upon the aggregate articles before us, which we advanced from a sense of duty in our last retrospect. The spirit of the preceding year has extended, in its full quintessence, to the present: there is an ardour of pursuit, a depth and comprehension of inquiry, an importance of matter, and a success of result exhibited in both parts of the volume before us, which have never, to our knowledge, been surpassed, and seldom equalled by any similar institution. Like the volume of the past year, the present consists of seventeen articles including the Bakerian or opening lecture: of these, eight are contained in its first part, independently of the Meteorologic Journal,

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and the remaining nine in the second part. 1. The Bakerian lecture is the production of Dr. Young, and as usual, is highly ingenious and recondite. It consists of experiments and calculations relative to physical objects: the writer's aim is to confirm, from additional experiments and observations on the fringes of colours accompanying shadows, his prior law of the interference of two portions of light. We do not think that sir Isaac Newton receives in this paper all the respect to which he is entitled, nor that the experiments of Mr. Ritt are sufficiently consulted or referred to. And still less do we believe that, admitting the facts here advanced in their fullest extent, the specific aura of light falls necessarily to Euler's system of an undulating medium. II. Continuation of an Account of a peculiar Arrangement in the Arteries distributed on the Muscles of slow-moving

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ing Animals, &c.; in a Letter from Mr. Anthony Carlisle to John Symmons, esq. F.R.S.; a prosecution of a former paper by the same ingenious writer. The arteries instanced are the seminal, intercostal, and diaphragmatic, together with those of the swimming bladder in certain fishes of a peculiarity of construction. III. An Account of a curious Phænomenon observed on the Glacieres of Chamouny; together with some occasional Observations concerning the Propagation of Heat in Fluids; by Benjamin Count of Rumford, V.P.R.S. The author's object is to corroborate a former assertion—that fluids are not conductors of heat or caloric; and he appears a little incensed as well as surprised that this assertion has not been generally admitted by modern chemists. It does not strike us that the present appeal is by any means decisive; or that the phænomenon is satisfactorily explained by the proposed system. IV. Description of a triple Sulphuret, of Lead, Antimony, and Copper, from Cornwall: with some Observations upon the various Modes of Attraction which influence the Formation of Mineral Substances, and upon the different Kinds of Sulphuret of Copper; by the Count de Bournon, F.R.S. This paper is of great importance in the science of mineralogy, and we regret that we cannot pay it the detailed attention it deserves. The author's inquiry is ably and perspicuously pursued: the sulphuret to which he refers, however, is rare, and in the whole extent of Cornwall has only been found in the Huel Boys, a mine which has never been regularly worked, though we have just learned that it is now on the point of being so. V. Analysis of a triple Sulphuret of Lead, Antimony, and

Copper, from Cornwall; by Charles Hatchett, esq. F.R.S. The sulphuret is that described in the preceding article: its analysis, which was carefully conducted, discovered it to consist of antimony, lead, copper, a small quantity of iron, and a still smaller of sulphur. VI. Observations on the Orifices found in certain poisonous Snakes, situated between the Nostril and the Eye; by Patrick Russell, M.D. F.R.S.: with some Remarks on the Structure of those Orifices and the Description of a Bag connected with the Eye, met with in the same Snakes; by Everard Home, esq. F.R.S. The direct object of these orifices and bags is by no means clearly ascertained. In snakes they seem to be peculiar to those that are poisonous; and have been actually traced in the rattle-snake, in fifteen or sixteen species of coluber, and in three box. But they are also found in several deer and antelopes, probably in all of them. VII. An Inquiry concerning the nature of Heat, and the Mode of its Communication; by Benjamin Count of Rumford, V.P. F.R.S. This inquiry is ingeniously and operosely conducted. Its object is to prove the existence of frigorific as well as calorific rays; the former of which are supposed to proceed from the heavens, to produce the extreme chill on the summits of lofty mountains, and to regulate the temperature of the earth. In this case, the old doctrine of the Greek schools, that cold as well as heat is a body *sui generis*, would be completely re-established. The subject is to be pursued; and we shall hence have an opportunity of examining it more fully hereafter. VIII. Experiments and Observations on the Motion of the Sap in Trees. In a letter from Thomas Andrew Knight, esq. to Sir Joseph Banks,

Banks, Bart. &c. &c. Some additional facts are here adduced in support of an opinion antecedently advanced by Mr. Knight—that the vessels of the bark which pass from the leaves to the extremities of the roots are, from their organization, better calculated to convey the fluids they contain towards the roots, than in any other direction. The first part of the volume here concludes with the Meteorological Journal, by which we perceive that the rain was not more than 17.922. Part II. opens with IX. Analytical Experiments and Observations on Lac; by Charles Hatchett, Esq. The different nature and kinds of lac are here minutely investigated; as also the best method of dissolving it, which Mr. Hatchett, pursuing the mode in common use among the Hindûs, found to be water with which a small quantity of borax has been previously commixed. X. On the Integration of certain differential Expressions with which Problems in Physical Astronomy are connected; by R. Woodhouse, M.A. F.R.S. From the recondite nature of this paper we cannot enter into the idea intended to be conveyed. XI. Observations on Basalt, and on the Transition from the vitreous to the stony Texture which occurs in the Refrigeration of melted Basalt: in a Letter from Gregory Watt, Esq. This elaborate paper contains experiments of very considerable importance, and which amply confirm those of sir James Hall, designed to prove the conversion of basalt from a vitreous to a stony texture, by the operation of slow cooling alone. We are sincerely concerned to find that the ingenious author of this excellent article has some time since paid the debt of nature, and fallen in

the full maturity of life. XII. An Analysis of the magnetical Pyrites, with Remarks on some of the other Sulphurets of Iron; by Charles Hatchett, Esq. F.R.S. The pyrites analysed was brought from the base of Mount Moel Celia, in Carnarvonshire; and the result of the experiments was, that sulphur and carbon appear to have an equal, or at least a similar power in rendering iron magnetic: the magnetic saturation, when sulphur is employed, lies between metallic iron with forty-six per cent. of sulphur and fifty-two of carbon. XIII. Account of the voluntary Expansion of the Skin in the Neck of the Cobra de Capello, or Hooded Snake of the East Indies; by Patrick Russell, M.D. F.R.S.: with a Description of the Structure of the Parts that perform that Office; by Everard Home, Esq. F.R.S. We cannot explain this singular apparatus of nature without the plate: its use is not yet accounted for. XIV. Continuation of an Account of the Changes that have happened in the relative Situation of double Stars; by William Herschell, LL.D. F.R.S. This paper, which is truly curious and valuable, exhibits the changes which have occurred in a variety of stars. These changes extend from an angle of ten degrees in some, to an angle of not less than a hundred and thirty degrees in others. The observations must soon be productive of various important conclusions; at present they are rather too much accompanied with hypothetical reasoning. XV. Observations on the change of some of the proximate Principles of Vegetables into Bitumen; with analytical Experiments on a peculiar Substance, which is found with the Bovey Coal; by Charles Hatchett, Esq. F.R.S. These ob-

servations are decisive in proving the transmutation of vegetable matter to a mineral substance, through the medium of the coal referred to. XVI. On two Metals found in the black Powder remaining after the Solution of Platina; by S. Tennant, Esq. F.R.S. This black powder was at first supposed to be plumbago: Descotils and Vauquelin detected in it a new metallic substance: and Mr. Tennant has discovered that this metallic substance is composed of two distinct metals, each obtained by a different process; to the one, from the variations of its hues, he has given the name of *iridium*; to the other, from its peculiar odour, *osmium*. XVII. On a new Metal found in crude Platina, by William Hyde Wollaston, M.D. F.R.S. This metal bears much affinity to the *iridium* of Mr. Tennant; and is perhaps the same. Dr. Wollaston, however, denominates it *rhodium*. It is probable also that both are the same substance as the palladium of Mr. Chevenix, which we noticed in our last year's retrospect.

We announced in our last year's retrospect, also, that an "Abridgment" of the truly valuable labours of the Royal Society had been commenced, in a form, and under the auspices of talents, that promised a most desirable issue. This Abridgment is so far persevered in, that the current year has produced vols. 2 and 3, which extend to the close of the thirteenth volume of the original. We have no reason to complain of any relaxation in the powers or spirit of the compilers.

The Society of Antiquaries of London have published the fourteenth volume of their "Archæologia, or Miscellaneous Tracts relating to Antiquity." The tracts

are in number thirty-four, the engravings are fifty-eight, and in an appendix are subjoined a list of presents to the society, a catalogue of the works it has published, and an useful index. The articles are introduced without any pretension to arrangement, and it is hence impossible to follow them with any kind of specific epitome or character. In several instances we trace papers scarcely worthy of admission; but, upon the whole, the *fourteenth* volume is the best of the series. There is much ingenuity and learning in the seventh article, by Mr. Western, offering an illustration of the second Arundelian marble; in the twenty-third, by Mr. Lysons, on some of the tombs in the abbey church of Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire; in the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh, by Mr. Sharon Turner, on the early use of rime; and in the twenty-eighth, by Mr. Henley, on the inscription found on certain bricks asserted by Dr. Hulme, in article ten, to be of Babylonian construction.

The ninth volume of the "Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy," which we expected in the course of 1803, has at length reached us. It consists of twelve articles, of which the most important are two mathematical papers, by the professor in the Dublin University, Mr. Brinkley. Mr. Preston, the translator of the *Argonautics*, has contributed three papers, of which the last only is entitled to individual notice. It offers considerations on ancient amatory writers, and on the comparative merit of Ovid, Tibullus, and Propertius. Mr. Dunne has presented some valuable notices relative to several of the native tribes of North America; and Dr. Richardson

Richardson a recondite account of the Whynn Dykes, in the neighbourhood of the Giant's Causeway, Bally-Castle, and Belfast.

Of the "Asiatic Researches, or Transactions of the Literary Society of Bengal," no volume has reached us since the seventh, which arrived just in time for a notice in our last year's retrospect.

Of the lives which have been published in the course of the current year, that of sir William Jones, by Lord Teignmouth, is by far the most interesting and the best written. Prefixed to the splendid edition of this excellent and unrivalled scholar's works, in eight volumes quarto, including the supplement, and without which no gentleman's library can be complete, we have an elegant *éloge*, or, as it is now denominated in France, a *notice*, from the pen of the same biographer, in the form of a discourse delivered before the Asiatic Society in Calcutta, May 22, 1794; but the few and sparing hints here communicated, the character and literary pursuits to a development of which *alone*, this prefatory discourse is devoted, do not constitute all the tribute which is due to the taste, the talents, the accomplishments, the virtues, of so extraordinary a personage; and though an interval of ten years has elapsed between the publication of the original *éloge* and the present *memoirs*, the memory of sir William Jones is still sufficiently strong in the mind and feelings of the public to render the biography now offered highly interesting and welcome. As we have enriched another department of our Register with extracts from some of its most important pages, we shall only add, in the present place, that lord Teignmouth has executed his

task with feeling, elegance, and spirit. The volume is too much crowded, however, with private letters of little consequence or importance; and there are some few passages both of defence and apology, for which sir William, we believe, would not have thanked his friend.

In pompous and inflated language, for ever hunting after brilliances and sublimities, which it is destined seldom or never to attain, Miss Seward has written "Memoirs of the Life of Dr. Darwin, chiefly during his Residence at Lichfield." Such is the writer's intention as expressed in the *title*; in the *volume itself*, however, we are directly told that the period of time passed by doctor Darwin at Derby, and not the "*moiety of his professional existence* formed by his residence at Lichfield" is the chief object of his biographer; and such in fact it appears to have been. We cannot compliment Miss Seward upon her powers of writing prose: we have often admired and felt the beauties of her poetry; and nothing is now more obvious than the line in which she ought to walk, without deviating either to the right hand or the left. The first forty, and nearly the first forty-eight verses with which doctor Darwin's Botanic Garden commences, Miss Seward here claims as her own: we believe the claim to be most justly founded, and are by no means surprised that she should thus strenuously endeavour to appropriate them: with the exception of a single passage or two, they are the most beautiful in the entire poem. It is truly extraordinary that doctor Darwin should not have acknowledged, as he ought to have done, the source to which he was indebted for them, and which

which appears, indeed, to have given him the first idea of writing the poem itself, in some subjoined note. We understand from the volume before us that another biography of the doctor may shortly be expected from his friend Mr. Bilsborrow.

"An Account of the Life of James Beattie, LL.D. Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic at Aberdeen. By Alexander Bower." The smooth and unruffled tenour of the life of Dr. Beattie does not offer much to the pen of biography; and hence the volume before us, though small in size, and thin in number of pages, is eked out by a vast quantity of collateral matter, of which great part has no more to do with its immediate subject than he had with the Grand Mogul. Dr. Beattie was a better poet than a philosopher; yet, as his claim to philosophy seemed best calculated to advance him, he abided by it, and it proved his high road to royal patronage.

"Memoirs of the Life of Gilbert Wakefield, B.A."—2d edition, 2 vols. 8vo. The first edition consisted of one volume only, and was written and published by Mr. Wakefield himself. The present retains his own memoirs, and continues his history from the period at which he terminated it himself till his decease. The posthumous part is the joint product of two of his most intimate friends, whose attachment, we had almost said *partiality*, is conspicuous in every page. Mr. Wakefield was a man of a high independent spirit, and sound extensive learning. There was, unquestionably, no small degree of imprudence in publishing the pamphlet for which he suffered a criminal prosecution; and there was still more imprudence in pub-

lishing a second edition of it, after this prosecution had commenced; yet, we believe he felt a victim rather to the peculiarity of the times in which he wrote, than to any real or at least extensive danger which, from the recondite and scholastic manner in which it was worded, could reasonably be expected to arise from it. Much of his conduct and pursuits in prison are honourable to human nature at large.

"Life of Joseph Priestley, LL.D. F.R.S. &c. with critical Observations on his Works." The biography of a philosopher and politician, who, for not less than forty years, occupied the attention of Europe or America, and often of both, and "Critical Observations" on works that extend to nearly a hundred volumes of different sizes, all closely packed up and pressed into a small duodecimo pamphlet of only a hundred-and-twelve pages, as though bound with a fair wind and tide for the regions of Lilliput! Surely the friends of this renowned theologian, philosopher, and politician, cannot think that they have fulfilled their duty to his manes by so light and trivial a memento. In the expectation that memoirs upon a larger and more comprehensive scale will yet make their appearance, we have deferred making any extracts from the book before us.

"The Historie and Life of King James the Sext, written towards the latter end of the sixteenth Century." Of the authenticity and consequent value of this publication there can be no doubt. The original manuscript is in the possession of Lord Belhaven: it has been several times referred to by former historiographers, and particularly by David Crawford, of Drumsey. Its range is from 1566 to 1580; and its pre-

sent imprint was superintended by Malcolm Laing, esq.

Mrs. Barbauld has edited, in six volumes octavo, "The Correspondence of Samuel Richardson.—To which are prefixed a biographical Account of that Author, and Observations on his Writings." The letters comprising this correspondence are selected from original manuscripts bequeathed by Richardson to his family. In one respect Richardson, in the collection before us, has an advantage over his correspondents, but it is an advantage which ought never to be taken—all his own letters were written from the first with the express view of publication, and hence copies of them were preserved as they were composed. There is in truth a studied formality in them, which renders this intention perfectly obvious; and which, though it have made them more finished compositions, deducts in a very considerable degree from that ingenuousness and open exposure of the heart which perhaps otherwise would have been exhibited much more considerably, and which actually is more considerably exhibited in the letters of several of his correspondents. Nothing can justify the preservation of confidential letters with a view to their publication, but the consent of the correspondents themselves. Should such letters be *accidentally* found afterwards by surviving relatives, and nothing be exhibited in them injurious to the Character of the respective writers, the case is materially altered, and there seems no moral prohibition to their publication. The epistles we have been chiefly pleased with in this voluminous assemblage, are those of the warm and animated lady Bradshaigh, and madame Klopstock, the

excellent and amiable wife of the author of the Messiah. Those of Richardson's own writing contain many admirable and pious sentiments; but in his replies to the ladies, as well as in the rejoinders from the latter, there is compliment almost to caricature. Such a warehouse of ready-made flattery we have seldom witnessed; flattery too so highly seasoned as sometimes to border on impiety. The best part of the work before us is the editor's biographical account of her hero; it evinces taste, judgment, liberality, and learning; it is equally entertaining and instructive.

"The Life and Letters of the late John Wilkes" have been introduced before the world by a duplicate of authors or editors; the one set published in five volumes duodecimo, by his friend Mr. Almon; and the other in four volumes of the same size, by an anonymous hand. It does not appear to us that the letters or the lives, as exhibited in either of these works, are destined for immortality. The web of Mr. Wilkes's life was spun of very mingled yarn indeed; and neither of his biographers have been *blameably* desirous of concealing his vices. He has had his day—it was, in its earlier part, stormy and pestilential, but the atmosphere grew less hazy and more wholesome as his sun descended. His name will occasionally appear in history, connected with certain events to which he gave birth, or in which he was chief actor, but there was a self-interest in his motives, a simulation in his conduct, which must ever prevent him from obtaining a niche among honest and upright statesmen. Several of the letters to his daughter, published in the anonymous edition, ought unquestion-



ably to have been suppress; if not from a regard to the characters of the addresser and the addressed, at least from a deference to public modesty and decorum.

"Memoirs of Charles Macklin, Comedian." This too is an anonymous performance, but agreeably and ably executed, and by a friend who appears to have been equally well acquainted with the variable life of Mr. Macklin, and competent to appreciate his professional talents. Interspersed throughout the volume we meet with many entertaining anecdotes, and one or two full drawn sketches of Mr. Macklin's friends. The book, indeed, is intended as a sort of history of the stage during nearly the whole of the last century, and it is not without pretensions to such a character.

"The Lives of the Scottish Poets; with preliminary Dissertations on the literary History of Scotland, and the early Scottish Drama, By David Irving, A.M." 2 vols. 8vo. A compilation carefully and attentively selected from antecedent pioneers in the same path; to whose researches little is added either important or novel. In the dissertations, which are ably drawn up, Mr. Irving is under very considerable obligations to Mr. Walter Scott and Mr. Pinkerton. In this list of poets we meet with the name of Dr. Geddes; who seems rather dragged out of his proper department, in consequence of his extensive erudition. His life is chiefly an abstract from Mr. Good's Memoirs.

Mr. Maugin has translated from the French a short "Life of Lamignon Malesherbes," which we wish was much longer, and more fully detailed; in which form we trust we shall soon meet with it,

when we shall pay it the honour of a due notice. Few more excellent men than Malesherbes ever existed: his mind was highly cultivated, his judgment correct, his heart liberal. He was almost, if not altogether, the only real friend of the unfortunate Louis XVI.; yet he rejoiced in the commencement of the revolution, because he was also a real friend to his country. His warm and admirable defence of his beloved sovereign is well known, and will never be forgotten: Malesherbes soon followed him, and in the same way; himself and his children were alike massacred by that terrestrial pandemonium the Revolutionary Tribunal.

Mr. Hayley has added a third volume to the "Life and Posthumous Writings of William Cowper, Esq." and should he meet with materials enough of the same sterling value we shall be happy in attending him to a *thirtieth*. The letters, which amount in number to a hundred-and-sixty-three, are for the most part addressed to the Rev. John Unwin, and the Rev. William Newton, with both which names our readers must already be familiarized from many of his preceding epistles. They possess the same character of simplicity, ingenuousness, elegance, and ease, which so remarkably distinguish the whole of this excellent and extraordinary man's epistolary compositions; and subjoined to them is a fragment of an original poem in blank verse, entitled *Yardley Oak*, fortunately discovered in a heap of old manuscripts, but not till after the anterior two volumes had been published. It is an exquisite morsel, extending to a hundred and sixty one lines, and forms the commencement of a poem which was to have been modelled after

after the plan of the Task, and would in all probability have been of considerably greater length. The turn and genius of the Task are here preserved in their full spirit and peculiarity. Mr. Hayley has prefixed to this volume some remarks of his own on epistolary composition; but we perceive nothing in them of prominent interest or merit.

In the department of archæology we have to notice that Mr. King is still persevering in his "*Munimenta Antiqua*," of which the third volume is now before us. Its defects and merits are of the same description as those we have already pointed out in glancing at the antecedent parts of the work. His researches are still as recondite, and his illustrations as accurate when he chooses, and his perambulations into foreign and unconnected domains as random and desultory. We doubt much whether he will be able to make good his promise, by completing his intention in four volumes: if he should, the last must be of a very different texture in point of compression from those already before the public.

"*Scotia depicta*; or the Antiquities, Castles, Public Buildings, &c. of Scotland; illustrated in a Series of finished Engravings. By James Fittler, A.R.A. and Engraver to his Majesty, from accurate Drawings made on the Spot, by John Claude Nattes. With Descriptions antiquarian, historical, and picturesque." Long folio, 6*l.* 6*s.* The history of this volume is given so fully in the title-page, that we have little more to do than to present its title-page to our readers. It consists of fifty prints, many of which should have been drawn something *more accurately*, and etched in a *more finished* style,

before the artists had ventured to arrogate these proud epithets to their productions. Who favoured them with the descriptions, which also extend to fifty pages, we know not; they are as neatly and as satisfactorily introduced as the brevity, to which the writer was probably compelled, would allow.

Of equal splendour and expense Mr. Lysons has published his "*Collection of Gloucester Antiquities*." It consists of a hundred-and-ten prints, from drawings of his own, which, though not so expressly denominated in the title-page, appear to be for the most part strictly accurate and interesting. The plates he plainly tells us, which he has also etched from his own drawings, do not pretend to the character of *finished* engravings: "I nevertheless flatter myself," continues he, "that the manner in which they are executed will not be thought wholly inadequate to the subject." Mr. Lysons is entitled to a belief without any flattery whatever. We have only to wish that an antiquarian so well qualified for the task had entered more at length into a *literal* description of the places he has so well and picturesquely designed. This, however, has been in some measure accomplished, within the course of the current year, by Mr. Rudge, who, in his "*History of the County of Gloucester*," in 2 vols. 8*vo.* has entered with some detail into its antiquities. Mr. Rudge professes indeed to do little more than present an abridgment of sir Robert Atkyns's *History*, which extends to a thick folio volume; but he has compiled with so much taste, has abridged with so much judgment, and written with so much elegance that we cannot but be indebted to him for his undertaking.

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It is well known, we apprehend, to many of our readers, that the late Rev. Owen Manning had been long engaged, prior to his decease, in preparing materials for the "History and Antiquities of the County of Surrey." He died, however, when he had done little more than the making a collection of such materials. These have, nevertheless, been arranged by the kindness of his friend Mr. Bray; and the first part of his History is now offered to the public, in a splendid folio volume, for the benefit of his family. To what extent the entire work is to reach we are not informed. The volume before us gives evident proofs of patient and elaborate research, and is introduced by a long list of respectable subscribers.

Miss Watt, who some few years ago attempted to supplant Mr. Hoole's version of Tasso's "Jerusalem Delivered," has given us a "Walk through Leicester;" which falls within the precincts of our present class, in consequence of the remarks which it professedly offers upon the antiquities of this town. Some of these remarks are ingenious, and do credit to the writer's diligence of research; yet, we honestly confess that we do not wish to meet with ladies in the guise of *antiquaries*: much less ladies who have been accustomed to wait upon the toilet of the Muses. We do not perceive that Miss Watt has reaped any solid advantage by a *change of place* and occupation.

Mr. Herbert has furnished us with an useful compendium of sir William Dugdale in his "Antiquities of the Inns of Court and of Chancery." Following his admirable model, he enters, though briefly, into the foundations, customs, ceremonies, buildings and

government of the greater part of them; and appends a concise history of the English law: in truth so concise as to afford no satisfaction to any party: being too superficial for the student, and too much of an abstract to communicate any useful information to the unprofessional. No notice is taken of one or two establishments which no antiquary formerly would have thought himself at liberty to overlook. It should hence seem that Inns of Court, like inns on the road, may become unfashionable, be forgotten and deserted for others.

Dr. Hill has made an acceptable addition to the philological shelves of our library by his "Synonyms of the Latin Language, alphabetically arranged; with critical dissertations upon the force of its prepositions both in a simple and a compounded state." The shades of meaning in the same word introduced into different phraseologies vary like the *shades* of the same *light* or *colours* in different situations, and are equally difficult to be followed up and defined. But if this be a fact with respect to the same words—how variable must necessarily be the difference which results from the introduction into unconnected or dissimilar phraseologies, of words which are not literally the same, but in an enlarged sense of the term are called synonymous, because in one or two phrases, although derived from separate roots, they may chance to mean the same thing. Nothing perhaps requires more sound critical judgment, or keen sensible taste, than to perceive and point out all these ramifications of difference. By the vulgar they are not perceived, and seldom by the popular orator, who, for the purpose of enriching his harangue, and more especially

especially for that of avoiding tautology, is in the habit of treasuring up in his mind, a multiplicity of *similar* terms expressing somewhat of the same meaning, upon which, as upon a bank, he draws at option, without giving himself the trouble to examine very minutely in what peculiar kind of cash he is paid, provided the sum total amounts to the same thing. We believe however there are words in most, perhaps in all languages which are truly synonymous, or in other terms, that have a precise identity of meaning: and, on this account, much as we approve of the work before us in the main, and admire the indefatigable patience with which the learned writer has hunted a variety of terms through all their radical and compound bearings, we cannot avoid conceiving that in many instances the chase is continued too far; and that the shades of difference are fanciful and evanescent. we see by the papers, for a copy has not fallen into our hands, that an introductory vocabulary for the use of our under schools, has been formed from this more recondite work of Dr. Hill, which, if selected with due discrimination, cannot fail of being highly serviceable in the academies for which it is designed.

“The Topography of Troy and its Vicinity illustrated and explained, by Drawings and Descriptions. By W. Gell, Esq. of Jesus College, M.A. F.R.S. folio, price 10l 10s. The recent doubts of Mr. Bryant, and the previous hesitation of earlier scholars, have occasioned much commotion concerning the existence both of the town of Troy, and the plain of Ilium. The labours of Mr. Morrit, Mr. Dalzel, Dr. Chandler, and M. Chevalier, have been ably directed to

this point in favour of their existence; and the most sceptical seem to have been disposed to conviction. Some few, however, have still rejected the evidence and arguments offered; and to those we recommend an attentive examination of the work before us: a work compiled on the spot; enriched with not less than five-and-forty very excellent engravings from views, and remains yet in existence, all tending to corroborate the topography of the Iliad, and to augment the interest of this immortal epic by demonstrating its geographical veracity, and hence fortifying our faith in the truth of its narratives. The plain of Troy is here sufficiently ascertained to be the whole line of coast extending from Gargarus to Sigeum; while the city of the same name occupied, with even less question still, the site of the village now denominated by the Turks Bounarbashi. The lineaments in both instances marvellously correspond and their unity is confirmed by a variety of incidental and collateral facts and features upon which it is impossible for us to enlarge. We cannot but conceive the dispute at rest in consequence of this very able and accurate indagation.

“The works of Plato, by Thomas Taylor,” 5 vol. 4to. The works of Plato have always been esteemed and always will be, whatever system of physics or metaphysics be most fashionable in succession to each other. Wrong as is almost the whole of his fundamental points, his reasoning is most admirably correct and excellent; and allowing him his fulcrum, he cannot fail to move the world. The greater part of his expositors yet extant, studied him however in connexion or with a view to the christian religion: they studied him at Alexandria,

Alexandria, where *eclectism*, or the amalgamation of different systems or certain principles of those systems were all the *rage*.—Judaism, Gymnosophism, Pythagorism, Aristotelism, Platonism, Christianity; whence a medley or patchwork theory was educ'd more incongruous than the most incongruous of them, yet pretending to the beauties and excellencies of the whole. It was from this heterogeneous fountain that Jamblichus, Plotinus, and Porphyry drew their first draughts of what they called Platonism; but which in truth no more resemble the doctrines or conceptions of Plato, than those of Mahomet resemble those of Moses. It is to be lamented that Mr. Taylor has studied Plato through these unintelligible jargonists: who have debased and obscured him, till scarcely any thing remains but "darkness palpable" or absurdities too visionary to excite any thing but laughter or indignation. Plato, in himself, is an intellectual sun; but like the sun he has spots of vast and fathomless profundity: the scholars we now refer to, however, instead of being satellites and illuminating his maculæ from other and more brilliant orbs, are dark and interposing powers that eclipse him with their own shadows. To this general character and description we are compelled to add that Mr. Taylor has in the version before us evinced an unexpected deficiency in his knowledge of the Greek tongue, has misunderstood his author in passages where his meaning was easily intelligible, and has imbibed not merely the most inconsistent of his own principles, but the most absurd of those of his eclectic expositors. The works of Plato, as here arranged, consist of fifty-five dialogues, and twelve epistles: nine

of the former of which are reprinted from the previous version of Floyer Sydenham. The whole of the remainder, together with all the epistles, are originally translated by Mr. Taylor; whose indefatigable spirit in collating a vast multiplicity of copies we cannot sufficiently commend, how much soever we may be disposed to disapprove of his execution. The publication has been generously patronized by his grace of Norfolk, to whom it is handsomely dedicated.

Mr. Taylor has also been concerned in a small octavo volume entitled "Translations from the Greek." These include a synopsis of the virtues and the vices by Aristotle; the similitudes of Demophilus, from Gale's *Opuscula*; the golden sentences of Democritus, from the same; the Pythagoric symbols, introduced by Jamblichus into his *Protrepheion*, together with the illustrations of this last philosopher—all translated by Mr. W. Bridgeman: to which is added a version of the Pythagoric sentences of Demophilus, by Mr. Taylor. To the mystagogues in philosophy this book may be a treat—it is none, we honestly confess, to ourselves.

From the pen of the Rev. W. H. Marsh we have received another version of the *Satires* of Juvenal. Perhaps there is no author more difficult to render into English with a due preservation of his spirit, his terseness, his compression: and hence it is no unpardonable fault in those who have so lately attempted this severe task, that they have left the road open to subsequent adventurers. Of the exertions of Mr. Giffard and Mr. Rhodes we have already spoken in our Register for 1802 and 1803: the latter has preserved most of the letter,

letter, the former most of the animated and declamatory power of this exquisite and forcible satirist. Mr. Marsh must, in our judgment, be admitted betwixt the two. Upon the whole he is sufficiently veracious as to the text, but there is an almost perpetual want of that energy which seldom or never flags in his original. There is also a strange want of taste in the translator before us, which suffers half his sentences to close in the middle of his verses, so that all the power and beauty of the rhythm is completely lost; and his rimes, to the hearer, must frequently seem as perplex and difficult to be traced as those in various Spanish or Italian canzone.

The new editions or re-imprinted copies of the classical writers of Greece and Rome, consist of Mr. Elmsley's Thucydides, chiefly from Duker's previous labours, and containing, in the last volume, both his indices. The work in its present shape extends to six octavos; to which, another of annotations and various readings is to be added at some future time.—The Memorabilia of Xenophon, printed at Oxford:—the first three books, as far as the sixth chapter, from the edition of the late Mr. Benwell, of Trinity college Oxford, who died when he had advanced thus far in his collation: the remainder of the third and the whole of the fourth book are copied from Schneider, whose notes and various lections are also added. Prefixed to the work is an able dissertation by Mr. Benwell respecting the author's plan and object in its original composition; in which Edwards's belief that it was formed from the first upon a regular and systematic arrangement is completely subverted.—The *Ἰλίου Ἰάλωσις*, or "Capture of Troy," by

Tryphiodorus, republished by Mr. Northmore from an edition published by him in 1791, but enlarged and considerably improved by new criticisms and critical dissertations: of these, the more extensive are thrown into an appendix under the name of *excursus*: they consist of five in number, and discover much ingenious and philological investigation.—An Abridgment of Hensinger's edition of Cicero's Offices, printed in Germany in 1783. The notes which are suffered to remain are those of chief importance, and will be found sufficient for every ordinary purpose.

"Essays Literary, Political, and Economical, by John Gardiner, M.D. 2 vols. 8vo." The writer has engaged in an extensive farm, without having the means of *stocking* one half of it: the soil for the most part remains, in consequence, barren; and it will be well if the adventurer does not become bankrupt. The origin of man, the origin of language, the origin of civil government, the chief causes of population, jacobinism, philosophy, illuminism, all in their turn occupy Dr. Gardiner's attention, including a period of time that extends from the day of original sin to the present moment. We scarcely know upon which subject the writer is most at home: but to us he appears at least *as clear* in describing the different progenitors, the original Adams and Eves, from whom he conceives the various tribes of man to have descended in distinct quarters of the world, as on any other topic of less remote antiquity.

"Dissertations, Essays, and Parallels, by John Robert Scott, D.D." The subjects are the following: The influence of religion on civil society: The expulsion of the Moors

Moors from Spain—and other similar events: The first peopling of America: The progress of the fine arts: National population: The art of writing history: Whether eloquence were beneficial to Athens: Whether taste be unfavourable to morals. There are some good observations in most of these essays, together with a clear and perspicuous arrangement: yet they contain little that has not been observed before; and often observed with much more force and impression.

“Indian Recreations, by the Rev. William Tennant, D. D. 2 vols. 8vo.” These lucubrations contain the result of personal observations and inquiries made upon the spot during a residence of several years in different parts of India; and many of them are possessed of intrinsic value. They chiefly relate to the character, policy, manners, and customs of the Hindûs. They furnish us with cases upon the institutes of Menu, sometimes to be applauded, but more generally to be blamed and detested. They enter also, with considerable minuteness, into the mode of Indian agriculture, together with the seeds and plants chiefly cultivated: by which we learn, and with great pleasure, that the sugar-cane may be made to thrive far more successfully in Hindûstan than in the West Indies: that the potatoe has been most beneficially introduced, and fairly promises to be a sufficient safeguard against those dreadful famines which have occasionally been produced upon a failure of the rice-crops. Indigo seems also to succeed, and the cochineal insect has been attempted to be reared with some hopes of a beneficial result. It is not unlikely, however,

from various experiments that have lately been made in other regions, that the dye of the cochineal plant may be found capable of being communicated to other substances than the insect in question: but we are anticipating, by such an observation, a subject which we shall have to notice more fully in a future retrospect.

“Selections from the Works of Taylor, Hooker, Hall, and Lord Bacon; with an Analysis of the Advancement of Learning. By Basil Montagu, Esq. A.M.” It was to such authors as are here in part re-edited, that we referred in our notice of Mr. Clapham’s Sermons. Mr. Montagu has presented so valuable a selection from works of which several are become scarce, that we cannot but wish him to persevere in the plan he has pursued, and to add volume to volume from other writers of equal antiquity and ability, till he has run through the course of English literature. His Analysis discovers him to have studied in the school from which he has copied with considerable attention.

The success which has attended Dr. Drake’s “Literary Hours,” has induced him to add a third volume to a third edition of the former two which has been published in the course of the current year. We perceive in it the same richness of research, purity of style, and elegance of taste, which have so peculiarly characterized his preceding efforts, and have rendered them a valuable addition to our classical and philological libraries. The neglected Herrick is much indebted to him: he has rescued him, in a considerable degree, from the undue oblivion into which he had fallen; and has fairly advanced his pretensions to the character of a poet

poet beyond those of his contemporaries Waller and Carew; especially in the amatory and anacreontic styles. Dr. Drake has also adduced specimens from Sylvester's *Du Bartas* in proof of his having possessed a truly poetic vein. Sylvester has, indeed, been peculiarly fortunate: for it was but a short time since that we had to notice a variety of exquisite selections from the same translator, by Mr. Dunster, in proof that Milton had not only been acquainted with him, but had derived from him several of his most elegant and most admired descriptions. It was in consequence of Mr. Dunster's publication that Dr. Drake was induced to turn his attention to this quarter: and in the excerpts he has made, he has been studious to glean such passages alone as Mr. Dunster has either omitted or pretermitted.

The poetry of the year has been peculiarly barren in its higher classes: not a single epic poem of any description having made its appearance; while, in the dramatic department, the whole that is really worth perusing has been offered to us in an additional volume of Miss Bailey's *Miscellaneous Plays*, upon the great merit of which we have formerly expatiated, though we do not think that the volume before us is quite equal to the two preceding. It consists of two tragedies and a comedy: of the former, *Constantine* is far superior to *Rayner*, though by no means so impressive as *Ethwald*: of the latter, we cannot avoid asserting, that it is the feeblest effort of our author's comic muse.

But though, within the course of the year, we have had to boast of no regular epic, nor of any dramatic undertaking worthy of parti-

cular notice, save the above plays of Miss Bailey,—in Mr. Scott's "*Lay of the Last Minstrel*" we have received an ample atonement and compensation for this general neglect and sterility. It is the most exquisite poem we have long met with, the most melodious, the most impressive and forcible. Its model is that of the old metrical romance; varying its measure as the change of subject, or even, at times, the fancy of the poet himself may suggest;—a liberty consistent with the costume of ancient minstrelsy, but sternly prohibited by the more regular and classic muse. Its tale is simple, and, though obvious, still interesting to the conclusion: it is also conducted with fewer digressions and tautologies than the old romance is in the habit of presenting to us—is more scientifically arranged, and picturesquely adorned. The machinery, however, seems to be but of little use to the progress of the entire piece, and might be suppressed without being missed, or deteriorating from its general merit. The poem peculiarly excels in description and pathos; it seems to combine all the excellencies of the old metrical ballad with the omission of its defects and incongruities; and to be enriched with as ample an intertexture of true epic composition as the nature of its style and structure would admit of.

Mr. Scott has also been laudably engaged in dragging from the dust of the "*North COUNTRY*" libraries, a most interesting metrical romance of the thirteenth century, intitled "*Sir Tristram*," composed by Thomas of Ercildoune, commonly called Thomas the Rhymer. The poem is splendidly edited from the Auchinleck manuscript, in an octavo volume of five hundred pages,

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at the price of two guineas; and not more than a hundred and fifty copies have been struck off. It is preceded by an elaborate and valuable preliminary dissertation on the subject of the poem, and the long agitated question, Whether, since the story of Trystan or Tristram refers to a period of very remote antiquity, and various French metrical romances have been founded upon it, Ercildoune translated his poem from some pre-existing type in the romance language, or wrote it as an original piece, from which the French poems upon the same subject have considerably copied. The result is, that Ercildoune collected the materials for his romance in the country which gave him his name, and which is still represented in our maps as situated on the borders of the antient British kingdom of Strathclyd, comprehending the border districts of England and Scotland: that the poem before us was published anterior to any similar romance in the French tongue: and that the name of Ercildoune, as the original writer, is actually referred to in one or two French fragments.

Mr. Hayley has written a poem in six cantos, intitled "The Triumph of Music," upon an Italian love-story, which is equally improbable and uninteresting. It appears to be designedly a mere vehicle for communicating, in a connected form, a variety of love-songs, devotional hymns, sentimental sonnets, and moral rhapsodies, which the author has penned on particular occasions, and carefully preserved in his *escritoir*. We have not heard that the fame of the poet has been much augmented, nor can we conceive that it is likely to be augmented, by this patchwork performance. There are

some good, and forcible, and elegant lines in it: but in the main, it is feeble, desultory, irrelevant.

From captain Elton we have received a small volume of occasional poems possessed of considerable spirit and harmony. He has pleasantly employed the leisure which is not unfrequently to be found in a camp. Robert Bloomfield has again mounted his rural Pegasus, and in "Good Tidings; or News from the Farm," has produced a panegyric poem upon the cow-pox, of no ordinary merit. We have only to hope, that all the good it ardently proclaims and prophecies may be accomplished without any draw-back. Mr. Spencer has offered an elegiac poem, entitled "The Year of Sorrow, written in the Spring of 1803." It appears, indeed, to have been a year of severe affliction and loss of valuable and esteemed connexions to the writer, who laments in strains so truly pathetic, as to render it impossible for his readers not to condole with him. We wish him years of more felicity, and poems founded upon happier subjects. "Poems: by George Richards, M. A. late Fellow of Oriel College, 2 vols." Mr. Richards has been peculiarly fortunate in having received permission to have these poems printed at the university press, Oxford. They are a medley of dramas, odes, epistles, prize-poems, and war-whoops. We have not heard that Mr. Richards has any chance of being a successor to Dr. Hurdis.

Of poetical contributions republished either in whole or part, we have to notice "The Wiccamical Chaplet;" edited by Mr. Huddesford; and consisting of a selection of poetry chiefly original, comprising smaller poems serious and comic;

comic; classical trifles, sonnets, inscriptions and epitaphs, songs and ballads; mock-heroic poems, epigrams, and fragments of poems. The name of Huddesford has seldom accompanied the antecedent productions of this writer; but there has been too much merit in all of them to suffer public curiosity to rest satisfied beneath an anonymous title-page. For the same reason, the editor needed not to have published his name with the present volume: there are too many characteristic marks both in the humorous and sentimental pieces to have rendered it possible that any degree of doubt should have attached to the name of at least *one* of the largest and ablest contributors to this selection.—Dr. Crowe has published a new and enlarged, and, we may add, an improved edition of his very excellent “*Lewesdon Hill*.” He has also subjoined to it various other poems, possessed of proportionate merit. A new edition, anonymously introduced, but attributed to Mr. W. Tooke, of Gray’s-Inn Square, has been published of “*The Poetical Works of Charles Churchill*,” in 2 vols. 8vo. Its value, to those who are fond of Mr. Churchill’s caustic verses, is largely enhanced by a variety of very useful explanatory notes, and an authentic account of the author’s life, drawn up by the editor with an equal portion of industry and spirit.—Falconer’s “*Shipwreck*” has also been re-edited, and enriched with additional notes, and a life of the author by Mr. James Stanier Clarke, we believe, a brother of Dr. Clarke of Cambridge. It is an elegant octavo volume, beautifully ornamented with drawings from Mr. Gell, and ably illustrated by the voluntary contributions of several literary and nautical friends of the

1804.

editor. A new edition of colonel Mercer’s *Poems* has been likewise presented to the world, with some additional effusions of equal elegance and polish with those that are already in the possession of the public.

Of the rest, it becomes us to state that Mr. J. Belfour has presented to us a small volume of “*Fables on Subjects connected with Literature*,” which, we are told in the title-page, are imitated from the Spanish of Don Tomas de Yriarte; but which, from an accurate comparison with the original, we can truly aver have at times an imitation so slight and evanescent that we can scarcely trace it. “*Love-Letters to my Wife*; written in the Year 1789, by James Woodhouse;” which rather evince that the writer has been a good and a happy husband, than a good or a happy poet; and which is meant to be followed by other volumes of “*Love-Letters*,” in reserve, if the present should meet with the success the author fondly anticipates. “*Blickley Vale*, with other Poems, by Nathaniel Howard;” a little volume, with frequent gleanings of the genuine rays of Apollo. “*Wallace, or the Vale of Ellerslie*, with other Poems, by John Finlay;” who seems to be so deeply immersed in the shades of the vale of Ellerslie, as to find “no light, but rather darkness visible;” excepting, indeed, the *borrowed* lustre which, without any acknowledgment, he freely makes use of from the labours of more radiant bards. “*Poems by Thomas Brown*, M. D. 2 vols. 12mo,” evincing a strange intermixture of sense and nonsense; of power occasionally to excel, and occasionally to become worthless and insignificant; a warmth and

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energy

energy of imagination, and a want of taste and modulation. "The Shepherd's Boy; being Pastoral Tales: by William Day."—Pastoral tales fit for shepherds' boys alone. "British Purity; or, The World we live in: a Poetic Tale of two Centuries." A satirical attack upon modern times and modern politics, in easy rhyme, but not always allowing us to understand with ease the side of the question that is meant to be ridiculed. "Invasion; a Descriptive and Satirical Poem, by J. Amphlet," who has been induced to anticipate his subject, lest, in the event of its actually taking place, he should "fall in the field of honour unknown and unsung." "The Reign of Fancy, by the author of the Pleasures of Nature;" whom we understand to be Mr. Carey, and who has executed the poem before us upon the same scale of excellence as his past production. And "The Grampians Desolate, by Alexander Campbell;" to which we cannot but wish success, as its profits are to be appropriated to a most useful and benevolent institution for the cultivation of waste land in the Highlands.

Our dramatic productions for the year are altogether ephemeral—and are scarcely designed, we should suppose, even by the authors themselves for a longer term of existence. They are, in almost every instance, moreover, written for particular characters; a degradation to which the muse never should submit, and which, in times of greater energy and dignity, she never has done, nor ever will do. The only piece of this description which is entitled to particular notice is Mr. Cumberland's "Sailor's Daughter;" a comedy in five acts; in which, if we have few of the higher excellencies of the comic

muse, we have less mummery and extravagance than pervade the general efforts of the day. The rest it is sufficient to enumerate in a mere catalogue. "Almahide and Hamet, a Tragedy, by Benjamin Heath Malkin, Esq." altered (*alterée*) from Dryden's "Conquest of Grenada." "The Recal of Momus: by Benjamin Thompson, Esq." appropriately denominated by the writer himself, a *lagatelle*. "The Paragraph; a Musical Entertainment in two Acts: by Prince Hoare:" a *Paragraph* scarcely worth *inserting*. "Guilty or not Guilty: by Thomas Dibdin:" designed altogether for the stage, and filled with jokes, puns, and temporary allusions. "The Sea-side Hero; a Drama in three Acts: by John Carr, Esq." "The Hunter of the Alps; a Drama interspersed with Music: by Mr. Dimond, Jun."—Pieces which prove that the authors are possessed of better powers than they have actually chosen to evince. "The Soldier's Daughter; a Comedy in five Acts: by A. Cherry, of the Theatre Royal, Drury-Lane:"—evinced that the writer has not been an unobservant student in his own profession: that he knows what comedy should consist of, and can occasionally draw characters with success. "The Counterfeit; a Farce in two Acts: by Andrew Macklin." "Twenty-One; an Operatic Afterpiece, in one Act: by James Wild." "Foul Deeds will Rise; a Musical Drama: by S. J. Arnold:" of all which it is sufficient to observe, that *such things are*.

In our tales and novels we have been far more fortunate. M. Jauffret's "Travels of Rolando" have been translated from the French in 4 vols. 12mo.; and through the

the history of this fictitious character engages the reader in a tour round the world, it cannot fail to communicate to him knowledge of real utility, as well as of considerable variety, in a manner at once entertaining and impressive. Of a description not widely dissimilar is Miss Hamilton's "Memoirs of the Life of Agrippina," which are designed, through the union of fiction and fact, to lead the young or the idle to a general knowledge of Roman history, customs, and characters during the æra of Tiberius. We cannot, however, very cordially approve of this ingraft of imagination upon historic truth; being persuaded that the impression hence produced upon the juvenile mind will be so considerable, that it will be difficult afterwards, even upon a recurrence to real history, to separate from the memory the details of fact from those of fancy: and still less do we approve of the personage Miss Hamilton has chosen for her heroine, whose real character, so far from corresponding, even in the main, with the account of her in the Memoirs before us, was in many instances in direct opposition to it.—M. Lantier's "Travellers in Switzerland," which we have formerly noticed with approbation in our department of Foreign Literature, has been translated into our own tongue; and ranks under the present description of publications. It agreeably develops, in an epistolary form, and by means of imaginary adventures, the history, picturesque scenery, customs and manners of the country to which it refers; and cannot fail to impart much useful instruction. To the same class we may refer "The Duchess of La Valliere; an Historical Romance," translated from

the French of Madame de Genlis, designed to delineate many of the transactions that characterized the age and court of Louis XIV.; and concerning which the author tells us, in the words of her interpreter, that "history is very faithfully followed;" since "though we have added much, we have omitted nothing." Much indeed is added which, in our judgment, ought not to have been; and far too much to allow the writer's assertion—that "history is here very faithfully followed." But we have already noticed this work in its original form.

Of tales or novels indebted solely to the imagination of the writer, we have to enumerate "Heliadora; or the Grecian Minstrel;" translated from the German of Baron Goethe, which, if less impressive than "The Sorrows of Werter," produced by the same writer, is certainly of a less dangerous tendency. The work evinces the hand of a master; has a vast portion of bustle, involution, and soul-harrowing terror; but is spun out to too great a length, and hence becomes tedious towards the close. "The Modern Griselda: a Tale, by Miss Edgeworth."—A tale designed to prove how easily it is possible for a woman who possesses the entire affections of her husband, to lose them by degrees in consequence of her own abuse of the power she has acquired; and how difficult it is to recover what she has thus absurdly thrown away. Miss Edgeworth writes with her usual spirit and attention to real life.—"Aubrey: a Novel, by R. C. Dallas, Esq."—a novel well written, and, saving a few inconsistencies, replete with good moral instruction. It is addressed to M. Bertrand de Moleville, of whose political la-

bours, our readers may remember an English version to have been made a few years since from M. Bertrand's manuscripts; and it is designed in some measure, as he tells us himself, to exhibit "the wonderful resignation and prudence of every class of the emigrants from France. In descri-

bing," continues he, "the difficulty of submitting to the reverses of fortune, I recollected their accommodating their desires and wants to their means." A striking portraiture of the late unfortunate Mr. Cowper is introduced into the body of the work, and not without considerable effect.

## APPENDIX.

### GERMANY, ITALY, &c.

"**A** GEOGRAPHICAL, Historical, and Political Description of the Empire of Germany, Holland, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Prussia, Italy, Sicily, Corsica, and Sardinia. With a Gazetteer of reference to the principal places in those Countries. Compiled and translated from the German. To which are added, Statistical Tables of all the States of Europe. Translated from the German of J. G. Boetticher, of Königsberg. With a Supplementary Table, showing the changes since the commencement of the present War. Dedicated to their Majesties and Royal Family." 24 Plans, and a three-sheet Map; Royal 4to. 500 pages; 2l. 12s. 6d.; or together with Capt. Chauchard's Maps of the above Countries, on twenty-seven sheets folio, half bound, 8l. 8s. Stockdale, 1800.

An apology may seem necessary for inserting at this time a critique on a book published in 1800. But although this publication of Chauchard's Maps has acquired such well-merited and great celebrity in England, yet we had hitherto omitted to observe that it was accompanied by the volume now un-

der our consideration; and maps in general do not come within the meaning of our Register. At the present time, however, that the continental affairs of Europe attract the notice of the universe, by the tremendous positions of the combined and French armies, our review of this performance will not, late as the period is, be altogether out of time.

The book commences with Germany, its situation, boundaries, extent, soil, and productions, which, being so well known, occupy a very small portion. The history which follows is also concise, but extremely satisfactory, and the arrangement is then continued in the following order:—Population, language, commerce, universities, arts, sciences, &c.; form of government, and religions; division of the country into circles, and an account of each circle separately; Bohemia, Moravia, Lusatia, and Silesia are succinctly described; and the German history concludes with the independent districts belonging to none of the circles.

Upon a similar plan of arrangement the other countries are next sketched in outline, which, however

ever, is rendered interesting by the occasional record of historic facts, yet recent in the recollection of us all, and which tend in a material degree to enliven the dullness of geographical nicety. In this part of the work is a most capital three-sheet map of Germany, Italy, &c. from the North Sea to the Mediterranean. The mention in the title-page that this work was compiled and translated from the German excited some degree of surprise, at least, if not of doubt; but when we had perused a few pages of the geographical reference or gazetteer of such places as appear upon the map, in letters of a moderately large size, all doubt was done away. We certainly had expected to have found this part of the work, in particular, little better than a servile copy of the errors which disgrace every gazetteer extant, in England. Here indeed very great praise is due. We assuredly have no work in this part of Europe that contains so accurate an account of the different districts, cities, towns, &c. of Germany and Italy; or, more correctly speaking, within the compass of the London edition of Chauchard's maps, as this. The inaccuracies of former compilers here seem to have been all rectified; nor could it have been done without intense labour. We do not indeed profess to have actually referred to the map, to compare the longitude and latitude of every place enumerated in the gazetteer, but we have referred to a very great number, and find that the reference uniformly agrees with the map, which must, in some respect, be considered as a corroboration, if not a test, of the accuracy of both.

With such a guide before them, it is by no means creditable to our modern gazetteerists, that they daily issue new editions, equally incorrect with those which have gone before, when, inasmuch as this book is concerned, they need only compare to correct. Interspersed throughout the "geographical reference," which is a term much too modest for the best gazetteer that we have of the countries it comprehends, are twenty-three plans of the principal cities and fortifications of the continent. That of the almost impregnable fortress of Mantua, though small, is by far the best that we have met with in this country. They are all on a sufficient scale to convey satisfactory information to the mass of politicians who lay siege to forts in their closets, and manœuvre armies at their breakfast tables.

We now come to the statistical tables\*, which form a valuable addition, and, to use the words of the translator, who seems thoroughly to understand the subject before him, "suggest a few observations, which, as they might not at first sight occur to every reader, the translator thinks himself justified in laying before the public."

"The population, commerce, and wealth of most countries, are continually either on the increase or the decline. The nature of things precludes the possibility of their being permanent or long stationary at any one point.

"The boundaries and forms of government are not subject to that imperceptible and constant change which takes place in commerce, population, &c.: but on the other hand they are liable to sudden and

\* These are sold separately, price 11. 1s.

violent revolutions; and, in fact, such is the mutability of human affairs, that the most perfect and accurate statistical tables must, in the course of a very short space of time, become incorrect.

"Our German author fixed on such a fortunate period for his compilation as may not probably occur again for many years, in consequence of the unexampled revolutions which, since that time, have taken place on the continent.

"With respect to the present situation of Europe, it must be regarded as a temporary one; and as it has been the uniform practice of nations not to consider any augmentation or diminution of territory as durable, until stipulated for or guaranteed by a treaty of peace; upon the same principle it is impossible to have any statistical account posterior to the commencement of the French revolution.

"For the above reasons these statistical tables may be considered as the latest that could be composed; at the same time aware of the surprising changes which have happened since they were compiled: and with a view to give in one publication every possible information, a table has been annexed, containing accurate statements of the losses or acquisitions of Great Britain, France, Germany, Holland, the Swiss cantons, and Sardinia; the Papal territory, and other states of Italy; including Malta, Naples, Poland, Russia, Spain, and the Turkish dominions in Africa; the changes in their government, revenues, forces, commerce, &c., till the commencement of the campaign of 1799. So that, without making any alteration in the excellent tables of the German author, the present state of Europe is exhibited as precisely as the fluctuating and confused situation of

affairs will admit of, or as the uncertain nature of the durability of such tables requires.

"Should Europe return to something like its former situation, these statistical tables will be found an excellent guide in calculating the immense expense, devastation, and bloodshed, incurred by this horrible war; for by their means Europe, before and after it, may be compared and determined. But on the other hand, should it never return to a state similar to its former one, it must be esteemed a fortunate circumstance that these tables were published previous to the destruction of that system which has prevailed for so many centuries, concerning which it will always be important to possess accurate information.

"As to the present state of European nations, though very changeable, it is extremely interesting. Great Britain, in particular, appears as the most conspicuous figure in the grand picture of European politics. For her was reserved the glory of preserving Europe, and all civilized society, from the impious and fanatic attacks of furious anarchists; or, at least, of having almost singly, and unsupported, made an attempt for that purpose, at an expense exceeded only by her resources, her fortitude, and magnanimity. Thus, in the additional table, the increasing commerce, the great naval and military armaments of Britain, &c. &c. are given with that accuracy which the importance of the subject deserves."

An analysis has now been given of the contents of a book of great and general interest to this country, wherein every inhabitant not only possesses, but exercises, the right  
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of freely commenting upon the transactions, foreign or domestic, in which those who direct its government, take, or are supposed to take, any part. We do not hesitate to recommend it to the perusal of our readers, the greater part of whom most probably already have it in their possession, as a necessary appendage to the library of a political reasoner.

Although the title might be thought to comprehend the utmost extent of what the work contains, that is by no means the fact. No inconsiderable portion of France is included in the alphabetical reference, as well as an account of the interesting island of Malta, &c.

To sum up the whole merits of this work, the title promises nothing that it does not perform most fully; and so accurate, extensive, laborious, useful, and minute a map of those vast territories was never before completed in the British dominions.

Were any thing yet, requisite to stamp the authority and reputation of the maps, for accuracy; it was done most unequivocally by the ARCHDUKE CHARLES of AUSTRIA, and GENERAL MOREAU, when they concluded the armistice which preceded the treaty of Luneville, made on the 9th of February, 1801. In one of the articles of

that armistice it was agreed that, should any dispute occur respecting the line of demarcation, it should be settled by a reference to *Chamard's Maps*, which were thereby clearly held up to Europe as those upon which the greatest reliance might be placed.

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY indeed seems to have been impressed with a sense of the magnitude of the undertaking, for the subscription is not only honoured by HIS GRACIOUS SANCTION, but also by that of HIS ROYAL CONSORT, BROTHER, SISTER, and indeed ALL THE ROYAL FAMILY, amounting to twenty-four. The number of the other subscribers, amongst whom we observe the Archduke Charles, is about 3000. The preface thus, with much propriety, concludes—"Great, indeed, beyond all example has been the countenance given to this undertaking, and equal to such encouragement is the publisher's desire to evince that it has not been bestowed on an object unworthy of it."

As this publication seems equally to belong to the domestic and foreign department of literature, and yet somewhat distinct from both, we have preferred to introduce it under a separate head, rather than to infringe the uniformity of the other classes.



# FOREIGN LITERATURE

Of the Year 1804.

## CHAPTER I.

### BIBLICAL AND THEOLOGICAL.

WE shall adhere to the plan pursued in our Register for last year, and commence this department with the literature of Germany. Professor Paulus has not only published the fourth volume of his "Commentar über des Neuen Testaments," "Commentary on the New Testament;" but has begun a second edition of the earlier volumes; so considerable has been the demand for this work. M. Paulus has been lately, also, advanced to a professional chair in the University of Wirtzburg. M. Schweitzer of Zürich is engaged in a new version of the New Testament; which, from the specimen he has offered to the world, is likely to be a masterly performance: we think, however, from a casual glance, that he will be found too much dependent upon Dathe. Professor Justi of Marburg has given a new translation of what he denominates the "National Songs of the Hebrews:"—an attempt which bears no inconsiderable resemblance to Mr. Green's version of the "Poetical Parts of the Old Testament," both in manner and merit, excepting that it is less comprehensive. M. Schuster, in

imitation of Niemeyer, has published a work intitled "Aeltesten Sagen der Hebräer nach ihren Historischen und Praktischen Gehalte," "The most Ancient Traditions of the Hebrews in an Historical and Practical Point of View." The traditions referred to extend from Gen. i. to Gen. xi. inclusively; and several doubtful points are here followed up with no inconsiderable portion of critical acumen. M. Jahn of Vienna has republished, with various additions and improvements, his "Einleitung in die Schriften des Alten Testaments," "Introduction to the Books of the Old Testament:" while professor Schmidt of Giessen has brought forwards his "Introduction to the New Testament." This last has been acceptably received, and is worthy of the abilities we have ascribed to this industrious theologian in our last retrospect. Professor Thiess has also published, in his retirement at Holstein, the first part of a new Commentary on the Old Testament, of which we shall give a more detailed account when the work has made a further progress.

The inspiration of the sacred scriptures

scriptures is not very fully contended for by the generality of the German divines. They are for the most part, and especially the scriptures of the Old Testament, regarded as national songs, dithyrambic effusions, and fragments of national history, in which fable is often blended with fact, and mythology with real religion. Eichhorn, Rosenmüller, and Paulus, overflow with this idea; and hence the *Hebräische Mythologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments* of professor Bauer of Altdorf, "The Hebrew *Mythology* of the Old and New Testaments:" as also the "Excursen zum Buche Jonas," "Remarks on the Book of Jonas," by M. Goldhorn of Leipsic, designed to disprove the reality of the narrative, and to regard the whole as tradition. The high road to this sort of fancy was led by Mendelssohn and other infidel Jews, who denied the truth of the first two chapters of the history, containing the miracle of the prophet's having been swallowed by an immense fish, and, upon his repentance, released from it uninjured; and was perfected by Geddes and Eichhorn, who abandoned the whole as fictitious. In the same manner we have a "Sammlung abweichender Vorstellungen der Neu-Testamentlichen Schriftsteller über einen und denselben gegenstand," "Collection of Passages in which the Evangelists have given various Representations of the same Event;" a book which surpasses Mr. Evanson's "Dissonance of the Evangelists," and seems to glory in every casual discrepancy, without any fair attempt at reconciliation. Tending, or in our opinion tending, towards the same effect, M. Rosenmüller has been engaged in disseminating Mr. Marsh's hypothesis respecting a common and

original gospel anterior to those now in existence, and from which the present were drawn as from a primitive fountain: and as Mr. Marsh did M. Eichhorn the honour to translate his Introduction to the New Testament into English, M. Rosenmüller has returned the compliment by translating Mr. Marsh's Notes and Additions into German. But it would be an endless labour to designate all the publications in the German and more northern tongues which converge to the same point of diminishing, if not the *authenticity*, at least the *credibility*, of the sacred Scriptures.

That we may not have to return to the subject, we will here state that M. Matthæi of Moscow has published a second edition of his "*Novum Testamentum Græcum*;" in which he has laboured with some success, but with far too much acrimony, to prove that Griesbach has admitted considerably too lax an emendation, and in some measure dangerous to the common text, into his celebrated edition. Griesbach, nevertheless, had obtained success enough to have had the honour of a second edition; as has also his very excellent and classical antagonist, the latter published by Göschen of Leipsic: while Angusti, the coadjutor of Griesbach at Jena, has ventured even beyond the footsteps of his colleague, and has presented to the world the Greek text of the Apocryphal books of the New Testament: another divine having previously printed the first fascicle of his "Sammlung aller bis auf uns gekommenen Apokryphischen Bücher die sich nicht in der Bibel befinden," "Collection of all the Apocryphal Books which have been preserved down to our own times, though rejected from the Bible." We remember having seen a part of Josephus, and another

other writer or two of the same date, added to these apocryphal books in one or two of the earlier catholic versions, but the translator before us does not push his labours to so considerable an extent, though he might with as much reason engage in the one part of the plan as in the other. We forgot to mention in our last retrospect that M. Birch of Copenhagen has lately offered a new Latin version of the New Testament; which has the general character of being a respectable performance. We have now to state that, smitten with the same passion for unauthenticated records, he has added to his edition a *Codex Apocryphus Novi Testamenti*.

Among the works which pretend to *theological* rather than to *biblical* criticism, properly so called, we should not forbear to notice the following. "Syst. Einleitung in die Religions-Philosophie," "Systematic Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion," by M. Stutzman of Göttingen—a work of some research, and which has acquired for the author no inconsiderable portion of reputation. "Handbuch der Kirchengeschichte," "Compendium of Ecclesiastical History," by M. Schmid of Giessen whose abilities we have had former occasions of adverting to. Professor Plank's "Geschichte der Entstehung und Ausbildung der Christlichen Gesellschaft's verfassung im Römischen Staate," "History of the Origin and Progressive Formation of the Constitution of the Christian Church in the Roman Empire," exhibiting an investigation extensively indagated, and liberally conducted. "Vates's Synchronic Tables of Church History;" "Scherer's New Magazine for Biblical Literature," printed at

Hesse Darmstadt, and generally approved by theological critics; and "Ammon's Geschichte der Praktischen Theologie" "History of Practical Theology," from the Göttingen press; of which the first volume only has hitherto been published, and contains the history of Homiletics from the period of Huss to that of Luther. M. Sinsenis of Zerbst has also published a small volume entitled "Des Menschen im umkreise seiner Pflichten" "Concerning Man in the Circle of his Duties," in which the morality of the christian religion is accurately and perspicuously displayed; M. Bauer of Altdorf has presented his "Bibliche Moral," or, "Bible Morality;" and a relation of the late M. Schmid of Jena, a posthumous volume of this justly celebrated professor, denominated "Christliche Ascetics," "Christian Ascetics"—both tending to the same effect as M. Sinsenis's work, and both possessed of considerable merit.

The list of Sermons, whether in volumes or published singly, is very numerous; but few of them are entitled to distinct notice from their intrinsic merit. The relations of the late excellent Zollikofer, taking advantage of the popularity which is still attached to his name, have brought forth two additional volumes, making the *fourteenth* and *fifteenth*, of his discourses. We trust they will here pause: for the volumes before us very clearly discover that the study has been too closely gleaned for the fair reputation of the author. M. Collins's "Amtsvorträge," "Sermons, on various Occasions," are elegant and impressive, but declamatory rather than argumentative. "Sermons preached before their Prussian Majesties,"

jesties, by M. Pischon;" and "On Various, and Important Occasions, by M. Sack, chief preacher to the king at Berlin;" of which we prefer those by the latter writer, are more plain and simple in their diction, yet more earnest and animated in the manner in which they are composed. M. Ammon of Göttingen, to whose indefatigable labours we have just paid a due tribute of respect, has also published an excellent volume of discourses, under the title of "Christliche Religions Vorträge im Geiste Jesu," "Christian Sermons in the Spirit of Jesus:" while, for those who pretend to a greater degree of liberty in their explanation of certain facts and doctrines in the Bible, M. Hæfli of Dessau has submitted to the world his "Vier Predigten über die Protestantisch Christliche Freiheit," "Four Sermons on Christian Freedom in the Protestant Churches;" and M. Drasecke of Mölln, his "Predigten für denkende verehrer Jesus," "Sermons for the *free-thinking* (or, as it is the fashion to denominate it among ourselves, *rational*) Worshippers of Jesus."

In our last retrospect we noticed that a spirit of liberality and intercourse was considerably increasing between the catholics and protestants of the German states: and we can now positively affirm, with no small degree of satisfaction, that various works have been brought forwards, and with considerable impression upon the public mind, for the express purpose of subverting a multiplicity of unimportant differences between the two churches, and of mutually advancing their respective votaries to a state of nearer approximation. Professor Schlegel of Griefswald has led the way in this benevolent un-

dertaking: and the cause has been considerably assisted by M. Planke's "Abriss einer Historischen und Vergleichenden Darstellung der Dogmatischen Systeme," "Historical and Comparative Sketch of the Principal Christian Sects;" M. Tittman's "Neueste Geschichte der Religion und Theologie" "Newest History of Religion and Theology;" and various other publications of the same stamp. The catholics of Bavaria seem to have been most influenced by the discussion, and have made more considerable efforts to throw off the unessential but burdensome trappings and manacles of popery than those of any other electorate. In the mean time the Jesuits have spared no pains to revive their order, and the La-Trappists have boasted of having augmented their numbers. It has been the object of M. Wolf of Leipsic, to demonstrate the danger of encouraging the former, and of M. Leclerc, in his "Enthüllten Trappisten," to expose the misanthropy of the latter; while, perhaps, with more considerable success than either, the liberal and learned Abbé Glaz, whose convent has lately been suppressed among many others by the express order of his government, has in various publications endeavoured to tranquillize the consciences of the Monks and Nuns who have hereby been once more compelled to intermix with the world, and has admitted that these institutions, though sometimes productive of good, were often seminaries and asylums for almost every evil.

While such have been the general effects to harmonize catholics and protestants; attempts have not been wanting to lay the foundation for other accordances and unions. Several schemes have been

been advanced for assimilating the Roman Catholic church with the Greek; and still more for cementing the church of Calvin with that of Luther: a fact which is not unlikely to take place very speedily in Baden, under the auspices of the government itself, which has stepped forwards to promote the proposed uniformity. M. Planke, who has taken an active part in the discussion of the subject, has entered at large into its difficulties and facilities in his work "Über die Trennung und Wieder-vereinigung" &c., "On the Separation and Re-union of the Principal Christian Sects, with an Historic View of the Circumstances which gave rise to the Separation of the Lutherans and Calvinists in Germany, and of the Attempts which have been made to re-integrate them."

The philosophy of the day, too, the *pure criticism* or *transcendental philosophy* of the different ramifications of the Kantian school, has held out a friendly hand towards the professors of the Gospel; who in many instances have too readily, we think, accepted the proffered alliance: and hence the "Christian Ethics" of professor Rostock, as well as the "Lehrbuch der Christlichen Moral," "Elements of Christian Morals," of professor Vogel, are expressly founded upon human reason as developed in the Kantian hypothesis. This, so far as we have examined it, is an union by no means likely to subserve the cause of either sect: the gospel can gain nothing from *transcendental philosophy*,—nor can the latter amalgamate with the simplicity of the former as a science: they may both be professed by the same man, and both be acted upon, as the same man may be a politician and a poet; but their intermarriage and assimilation can

be productive of nothing but confusion and discord.

The idea of propagating the gospel though foreign and barbarous countries seems to have been as prevalent in Germany, and the neighbouring countries of its northern borders as in England. In various instances we believe that this benevolent object has been pursued conjointly: and hence we have had, published in Low Dutch, by M. Brake, a Batavian divine of exemplary character, a collection of Historic Memoirs relative to the Missionary Expeditions in England, Holland, and Germany, translated principally from English and German resources. The sect which has chiefly engaged in this pious office on the continent is the Moravian, or that of the United Brethren: their central point of assemblage is at Barby; and here it is that M. Risler has printed his "Erzählungen aus der ältern und neuern Geschichte der Brüderkirche," "Selections from Ancient and Modern Histories of the United Brethren:" as also the regular narratives of the proceedings of the united bretheren in relation to their evangelical missions to the East Indies, the sixtieth number of which has already issued from the press; and from which indeed the above selections of M. Risler have been chiefly extracted. It was from this church that the English evangelical missionary society received, if we mistake not, Dr. Vanderkemp who has been so successfully employed in its service, as we have already related, in the back settlements of the Cape of Good Hope: and it is to this church also that the missionary society of the established church of England has applied for adventurous legates.

While

While neither Spain, Portugal, nor Italy has offered us any thing worthy of individual enumeration, biblicism as a science has occupied but little attention in France. The religion which has once more become an engine of this last state, has merely presented to the hands of its votaries new editions of books that were formerly in esteem, and of which many ought never to have sunk in the public estimation.

We have had, however, from an anonymous writer, a "*Sommaire des Principales Preuves de la Vérité et de l'Origine Surnaturelle de la Révélation Chrétienne*," "Summary of the Principal Proofs of the Truth and Supernatural Origin of the Christian Religion;" which is a serious and impressive publication; rather too much imbued with a spirit of melancholy, apparently from personal sufferings during the late tremendous troubles in France, but not the less interesting, nor the less argumentative on this account.

Nor ought we, by any means, to lose sight of M. Villers's "*Essai sur l'Esprit et l'Influence de la Réformation de Luther*," "Essay on the Spirit and Influence of the Reformation of Luther." This essay evinces considerable attention to the period of which it treats, and is drawn up with much strength of judgment as well as liberality of mind. It owes its birth to a prize question proposed by the National Institute to this effect;—"What has been the influence of the reformation of Luther upon the political situation of the different European states, and upon the progress of knowledge?" Our author, far, however, from bounding his views by the immediate æra of Luther, peeps considerably beyond into the growing state and situation of Europe, by which alone Luther himself was

enabled to effect his important and beneficial purposes. "The reformation itself," says he, "is evidently nothing more than a necessary result of other circumstances which preceded it; an event of the sixteenth century with which, to adopt an expression of Leibnitz, the fifteenth was pregnant, or, at most, the cataract of the river." He divides his considerations into two heads: under the first contemplating the results of the reformation with respect to general politics; and, under the second, with respect to general literature and philosophy. That it was a fruitful source of many important changes both in the politics and literature of Europe, and consequently of the world at large, we very readily admit; but when the formation of the American republic, and of the present government in France are severally referred to it, as well as various other events almost as remote and unconnected, our readers, we believe, will be disposed to think with ourselves, that the learned writer has travelled in some degree beyond his record, and discovered a progeny for the reformation which it must find no small difficulty in being able to affiliate.

Independently of this essay, M. Villers has also written, and expressly, indeed, as an appendix to it; an "*Esquisse de l'Histoire de l'Eglise*," "Sketch of the History of the Church, from its Founder to the Reformation." In this dissertation, as in the former, there is more of politics than of religion: the characters of our Saviour and of his apostles are drawn indeed, with decency and respect, but they are rather regarded as political than religious reformers; and a comparison is hence instituted, not between Christ and Moses, but between

between Christ and Julius Cæsar. A similar "History of the Reformation" has been published by professor Heeren of Göttingen, entitled "Kleine Historische Schriften;" but its plan embraces other reformatations as well.

Upon crossing the Atlantic, we perceive that America is still rather supplied from the British press, than a contributor to the press from her own powers. Among the most important of her indigenous labours, we have to notice a posthumous publication of the "Works of Dr. William Smith, late Provost of the College of Philadelphia," in two volumes octavo, consisting of sermons, essays, and occasional criticisms, many of which last might have been omitted without loss to any thing but the size of the volumes:" "A Companion to the Fasts and Festivals of the Episcopal

Church," published anonymously; but chiefly selected from Nelson's excellent work on the same subject: "A Companion to the Altar," by Mr. Hobart, considerably indebted to the same source: "An Ecclesiastical History of New England," designed chiefly for the use of the Baptist persuasion; of which the author, Mr. Backus of Massachusetts, is a member, and to whose individual concerns and afflictions it is limited: Dr. Young's "Universal Restoration of all Men, proved by Reason, Scripture, and Common Sense," which evinces more benevolence of heart than legitimacy of argument; and a few single sermons upon particular occasions, by Dr. Livingston, Dr. Moore, bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of New York, Dr. White, and Mr. Alden, which offer nothing for individual detail.

## CHAPTER II.

### PHYSICAL AND MATHEMATICAL.

**A** POSTHUMOUS "History of Medicine," in two volumes octavo, the work of M. Tourtelle, Professor in the University of Besançon, and Professor in the School of Physic at Strasburg, has been published by his son. Its range is from the origin of medicine to the commencement of the eighteenth century; and consequently merely retreads the ground which has been so frequently trodden over, and so minutely beaten before, as to leave scarcely any point of importance to be gleaned of which the world has not been long in possession; and especially in consequence of the popular productions of Castel-

lanus, Le Clerc, Freind, and Good. The history is divided into the four periods; 1st, of the antients, comprising the entire space from the earliest annals of medicine to the commencement of the Arabian æra; 2dly, the period that extends from the destruction of the Alexandrian library in the sixth, to the beginning of the fifteenth century; 3dly, from the beginning of the fifteenth to the close of the sixteenth century, and consequently including the first dawn of medical knowledge upon its resurrection, till it had acquired some considerable pretensions to scientific arrangement: 4thly, the whole of the

the seventeenth century, comprising the history of Van Helmont, Sanctorius, Des Cartes, Sydenham, Mead, Hoffman, Boerhaave, Stahl, and other learned physicians of the same epoch. The work would have been more valuable if it had extended a century lower; and its value would have been still further augmented, had it been less a biography of medical practitioners than a well digested history of the progress of medical science and opinions; ideas, however, distinct in themselves, and which cannot, expediently, be treated of in the same publication.

M. Salmade, member of the academic societies of sciences, natural history, and medicine, has commenced a work of which the first volume only is announced, entitled "Précis d'Observations Pratiques sur les Maladies de la Lymphhe, &c." "Summary of Practical Observations on the Diseases of the Lymphatic Vessels, on the Rickets and Scrofula;" and M. Pomme has re-edited, with considerable improvements, two popular works first introduced to the public four or five years ago, the one entitled "Mémoires et Observations Cliniques sur l'Abus du Quinquina;" and the other "Traité des Affections Vapeureuses des deux Sexes; ou, Maladies Nerveuses; vulgairement appellées Maux des Nerves."

M. Brieude, of the Medical Society of Paris, has published, in two volumes octavo, "A Treatise on Phthisis Pulmonalis:" in which he directs his chief attention to the origin of the complaint. He then divides it into *acute* and *chronic* with regard to the duration of the disease, and *tracheal* and *pulmonary* in relation to its particular seat. His *Thesaurus Medicaminum* is but small, and for the most part feeble,

excepting when he recurs to mercury, which in its muriatic state, and exhibited in the form of syrup, he regards as highly efficacious in stimulating the secretory organs, removing obstructions in the lungs, and resolving tubercles of *every kind*: he hence believes it to be highly beneficial in every species and stage of the disease, excepting the colliquative. Into its different species, however, he has not entered with any accurate discrimination; and he is palpably defective in the science of pneumatic chemistry.

M. Reich's "Treatise on Fever and its general Treatment," published originally in the German tongue, has been translated into Latin by M. Kölreuter, and printed at Carlsruhe. The translator has appended four excellent memoirs of his own; on vital power; on certain cases of practical medicine; on delirium and mania; on epidemic putrid fever.

In our last retrospect we noticed that the Brunonian or rather Brownian hypothesis had continued to excite much controversy, not only in Germany, but in Italy and Spain. In the first of these countries the dispute is still persevered in with unabating acrimony: yet so many forcible objections have been offered against it, that it is professed by few of its votaries without some degree of modification, Röschlaub, Frank, Pfaff, and Van Hoven, are amongst the warmest of its adherents: while professor Kilian of the university of Bamberg has been fighting it, not merely by general opposition, but by advancing the very questionable theory of Schelling as a more rational and intelligible system. This Schellingian system has also been started in Sweden by M. Troxler, a physician of some celebrity, who finished his



his academical studies at Jena, in a work entitled "Versuche in der Organischen Physic," "Essays on Organic Physics." It is here, likewise, designed to combat the Brownéan hypothesis of excitability.

From various observations in professor Metzger's "Gerichtlich-medecinsche Abhandlung," "Dissertations on Medical Jurisprudence," and more especially in an express treatise on the danger of the yellow fever of America spreading in Europe, and the most effectual means of preventing it, it should seem that the idea that this dreadful malady is not contagious, or in other words that it is a mere topical or acclimating affection, is not the general opinion of the continent. We perceive in America, "A Collection of Facts; interspersed with Observations on the Nature, Causes, and Cure of the Yellow Fever," by Dr. Ruston; written with a view of confirming the same opinion. This work, however, which is published in the form of letters to the inhabitants of the United States, and has only closed what the author calls his *first part*, has now no prospect of being completed, in consequence of his premature death. The work institutes a comparison between the yellow fever and various other plagues and pestilences, from that of Athens described by Thucydides, to that of London in 1665.

The cow-pox does not appear to have excited quite so much perturbation in other countries, as it has done of late in England: it seems to be advancing with an easy and gradual progress; yet its inefficiency, together with a variety of evils dependent upon it, have been attempted to be exposed by Dr. Caldan, in a memoir read before

the academy at Padua, exhibiting a variety of unsuccessful cases that had occurred in the Friuli. This memoir, however, has been replied to with some warmth by Dr. Demetrio Neranzi of Padua, Drs. Miotti and Mazzaroli of Udina, and especially Dr. Pegrani of the same place in his *Ragguaglio della Vaccina in Friuli*. It is the object of the combatants to prove that the evils referred to by Dr. Caldan had no existence, or were much exaggerated in his relation of them. A little opposition appears also to be still exhibited in France, as we judge from various publications which have reached us, and especially "Quelques Observations importantes," &c. "Several curious and important Observations relative to the Vaccine Inoculation in particular and the Medical Art in general," by M. Jonard, an intelligent physician of the department of the allies. M. Jonard is a most strenuous advocate for the Vaccina; he combats every mischief which is said to attach to it; and not only denies that it ever can lay the foundation of any secondary complaint, but asserts that it facilitates and effects a cure of pre-existing maladies. The sober defenders of the practice will not, however, be obliged to him for this sort of unnecessary and injudicious support.

"Leçons du Cit. Boyer sur les Maladies des Os," "The Lectures of M. Boyer on Diseases of the Bones." This is an useful practical work in two octavo volumes, drawn up by M. Richeraud, at the lecturer's express request, and digested into a regular treatise. It is divided into two parts: the first, offering an account of the diseases which affect the substance and continuity of bones; the second, such as attack their articulations or connexion.

nexions. The best chapter is on the white-swelling. In that on necrosis, the authors discover a palpable inacquaintance with Mr. Russell's valuable treatise on this subject.

M. Vincenzo Malacarne of Padua, in his "*Ricordi dell' Anatomia, Chirurgice, &c.*" "*Records Anatomical and Chirurgical respecting the Head and Neck,*" has discovered himself to be an excellent anatomist and a skilful operator. The present work, which comprises two volumes octavo, includes several minor publications by the same author of an anterior date. In the first section of the first volume he treats of the external parts of the head: and of the internal in the second. The same order is pursued in the second volume, with additional and minuter remarks.

In Germany, M. Blumenbach has completed and published his "*Manual of Comparative Anatomy,*" which, if not equal to the more opuse works of Camper and Cuvier, will be found highly useful as a book of easy reference; and M. Sömmering has published a set of excellent plates of the human eye, "*Icones Oculi Humani.*" M. Thelow of Erfurt has commenced a series of "*Descriptions of remarkable pathologico-anatomical subjects,*" under the title of "*Beschreibungen Merkwürdiger Pathologisch-anatomischer Gegenstände,*" of which the first number only has been offered to the public: and a society of able practitioners have given notice of publishing, at Halle, a "*Journal for Anatomical Varieties.*" The cranioscopy of Dr. Gall seems to be gaining credit on the continent although with various modifications. The chief publications on this subject are by

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Hagedorn, Leune and Walther; to which may be added the anatomical figures of Loder, which are now completed, and cannot but be acceptable to the medical and chirurgical student.

In the field of pharmacy we meet with little worthy of distinct enumeration. M. Tromsdorf of Erfurt has republished his "*Lehrbuch der Pharmaceutischen Chemie.*" "*Manual of Pharmaceutic Chemistry,*" as also his "*Apothekerschule*" "*Tabular Instructions for Apothecaries;*" and M. Bucholz of the same city has edited his "*Genris der Pharmacie, &c.*" "*Elements of Pharmacy in conjunction with Chemistry:*" but there is little in either that can promise them an extensive or pre-eminent fame. There is something more valuable in M. Rivet's "*Dictionnaire Raisonnée de Pharmacie.*" "*Descriptive Dictionary of Chemical, Theoretical, and Practical Pharmacy,*" published in two volumes at Paris, and which might perhaps answer in an English version. M. Parmentier has also compiled his "*Code Pharmaceutique,*" for the use of the civil hospitals, by order of the minister of the interior: but it is in many respects unworthy of his abilities. The divisions are the usual ones: the list of *materia medica* precedes: the officinal preparations follow; and what the French style the *magistral* constitute the next class. M. Parmentier has offered his reforms with a timid and sparing hand, but his introductions to the different classes of medicines will be found valuable. M. Beaupoil has published some important "*Inquiries*" ("*Recherches Medico-Chimiques*") into the Virtues and Principles of Cantharides," in which

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he has successfully followed up the experiments of Thouvenel introduced into the *Annals of Chemistry*. We wish much that we had space or time to analyse these useful indagations.

In scientific and practical chemistry, M. Cadet has published an able dictionary in four volumes octavo. It includes the new theories and language, and on these accounts is superior to the present *Chemical Dictionary* of our own countryman Nicholson. The Paris "New Dictionary of Natural History" is also completed. It extends to twenty-four octavo volumes; and is not more full than interesting.

The favourable report of M. La Croix to the National Institute, upon the merits of S. Dandolo's "*Fondamenti della Scienza Chimico-Physica*," "*The Foundations of Philosophic Chemistry applied to the Formation of Bodies, and the Phænomena of Nature*," has produced a second edition of this excellent work at Milan. Professor Winterl has published a smaller and more practical work at Pest, in Lower Hungary, entitled "*Introduction to the Chemistry of the Nineteenth Century*;" which would be more valuable, if several of the results it contains were less suspicious, and the author's boast of converting flint into pot-ash could be supported by sufficient experiments.

Gmelin of Göttingen has also re-imprinted his very useful "*Grundriss*," or "*Outlines of Chemistry*." Scherer's *Chemical Journal* is entitled to respectable notice; but above all the "*Allgemeines Journal der Chemie*," "*General Journal of Chemistry*," by M. Trommsdorff, which is to be occasionally

enriched by contributions from Klaproth, Hermbstädt, Scherer, Richter, and others of equal celebrity.

The science of Galvanism has been followed up in Germany in many instances with considerable success; but from the mere love of novelty and an undue force of imagination it has absurdly, at times, been confused with Perkinism and animal magnetism. The best histories of Galvanism and its most extraordinary experiments have been compiled by Trommsdorff and Pfaff.

Spallanzani's posthumous, but very valuable "*Memoirs on Respiration*," published at Geneva, by M. Senebier, we have already noticed in our account of its English version. No work in natural history has lately appeared before us possessed of equal merit, both on account of accuracy and extent of experiment, and ingenuity of reasoning. Sonnini has been long engaged in publishing a new edition of "*Buffon's Natural History*:" it is now nearly completed, and will extend to, at least, a hundred-and-twenty octavo volumes. He has been fortunate in his coadjutors: and the additional matter brings down this comprehensive compilation to the latest discoveries. M. Lacépède, who found himself incapable of introducing the whole of his observations upon cetaceous fishes in his general ichthyologic system, has now published their "*Natural History*" in a separate work. The whale or cetaceous class forms a connecting link between other classes of fishes and the mammalia: while their element is that common to the former, their structure corresponds to that of the latter. M. Steinbuch of  
Furth

Furth, in his "Analecten Neur Beobachtungen, &c." "Collection of New Observations and Inquiries in Natural Science," has trodden, sed haud æquis passibus, in the path of Spalanzani: he has given, however, an account of another vibrio; and some not unimportant observations on the revivification of animals dried for six months. From the MSS. of the late professor Hermann of Strasburg, a fascicle of "Zoological Observations," and another of "Apterologic Memoirs," have been published, containing many valuable notices. M. Ochsenmeiurer has given a minute description of the "Schmetterlinge Sachsens," "Papillions of Saxony;" and M. Reubel, the votary of Schelling, a "Pflanzen und Thier-Physiologie," "Physiology of Animals and Plants."

The laws and structure of vegetables have been investigated in a variety of excellent publications. The "Illustrationes Plantarum imperfecte vel nondum cognitarum," by M. Pallas, is a work highly creditable to his industry. Wildehow has added several admirable opuscles to his former labours: the "Hortus Berolinensis" is growing considerably under his hands: he has written a most entertaining "Introduction to the Study of Botany without a Guide," "Anleitung zum selbststudium der Botanik," as well as a book entitled "Botanik für Frauensimmer," "Botany for the Ladies." Professor Sprengel of Halle has published volume the third of his "Anleitung zur Kenntniss der Gewächse," "Introduction to the Knowledge of Plants;" which contains observations upon the cryptogamia. M. Kohlhaase has given an extensive "Description of Poisonous Plants," and has success-

fully employed the new invention of marble plates for his drawings.

M. Thomas has produced from the Paris press the first number of his "Histoire de Végétaux, &c." "History of Vegetables collected in the Islands of Mauritius and Bourbon." This number contains ten plants: and the author's object is to describe and delineate the figures of such only as constitute new genera, or render the genera of anterior authors more perfect. From the pen of M. Ventenat we have received a very choice and valuable work in his "Description of Plants either entirely new or hitherto but little known, cultivated in the Garden of J. M. Cels, with figured Plates." The proprietor and describer are both members of the national institute: the former has been engaged during the last thirty years in procuring exotics from every region at a vast expense, and he has been highly successful. The work consists of ten fascicles, each of which offers ten distinct plants: they are exquisitely designed by Redonté, and engraven as well by Sellier. We omitted to notice in our last Register that Dr. Barton, one of the professors in the university of Pennsylvania, had consented to compress and rearrange his lectures on the vegetable kingdom, and to publish them under the title of "Elements of Botany." It is a work of considerable ability, and we have met with none that confers more credit on American literature. We have now to notice that it has since been re-edited in our own country, by a gentleman well qualified for the task, who has appended an addition of British examples, and occasional notes. But the most important work which has reached us upon this subject, either from the old or

the new world, is M. Mirbell's *Traité d'Anatomie et de Physiologie Végétales*. The new facts it unfolds, and especially from the unpublished observations of Humboldt, are equally curious and important; and, though in itself but a manual extending to not more than two volumes in octavo, it supplies, by its comprehensive survey, the deficiencies of Du Hamel and Senebier. The first volume and part of the second contain the anatomy and physiology of vegetation. A methodic vocabulary follows; and the work closes with a satisfactory explanation of the systems of Tournefort, Linnéus, and Jussieu. A third volume is promised, which is to unfold a history of botanic science, and offer various criticisms on the different systems advanced.

In the department of mineralogy the public is largely indebted to M. de Launy, for his very excellent "*Minéralogie des Anciens*;" lately printed at Brussels, in two volumes octavo. The author takes a wide and elaborate retrospect of all the knowledge of the antients, not only on the subject of mineralogy, but on every thing connected with it. He steers a middle course, in many of his opinions, between Buffon and Gmelin. We have only to wish that his arrangement had been a little more perfect. Haüy's "*Minéralogie*," so highly entitled to be naturalized in every language of polished life, has been rendered into German by M. Karstern, member of the board of mines at Berlin, and could not have fallen into the hands of a more able translator. Professor Ludwig, of Leipsic, has published a "*Handbuch de Mineralogie*," "*Compendium of Mineralogy*;" and the "*Anfangsgründe der Mineralogie*" of the same philosopher, has

reached a second edition, which is augmented by the latest discoveries, and is hence rendered one of the most useful books in the science. M. Schwabe, of Jena, has written a neat "*Einleitung*," "*Introduction to the History of Mineralogy*," in which a variety of important questions are proposed and perspicaciously solved. M. Bertrand, whose labours, often valuable but more frequently fanciful, we have had numerous occasions of adverting to, under the title of "*Nouveaux Principes de Géologie, Mineralogie*," &c. "*New Principles of Geology, Mineralogy, Physical Geography*, compared with, and opposed to the Systems of Antient and Modern Philosophers to the Time of Delametherie," has attempted to introduce a new general theory, which is rather Neptunian than Plutonic, or in other words, rather inclines to that of aqueous solution than vitreous fusion. It is pleasantly composed, but bears the common characteristics of his prior works.

Agricultural chemistry is considerably indebted to M. Hermbstädt, of Berlin, for a collection he has lately made of the best original German, or translated treatises upon this subject. M. Leopold, in his "*Agricola*," has also furnished a work of considerable excellence, comprising every branch of rural economy: upon which department M. Gaudich has likewise published his fourth volume, entitled "*Nebersicht der ganzen Landwirthschaft*," "*Entire Survey of Agriculture*;" and M. Pross, the sixth volume of his *Handbuch*, or "*Manual of Practical Husbandry*;" the progress of which works it is now sufficient to observe without criticizing their merits. But it is impossible to present even a catalogue of all the publications

publications of this description entitled to notice which have appeared on the continent as general systems, or as relating to distinct electorates or provinces. Suffice it to say, that we have met with few remarks that can afford much information to our own agriculturists, who appear to excel the different nations on the continent in nothing more than in their general tillage and husbandry. In Mecklenburg, Livonia, Bohemia, and many other domains, we are happy to perceive the establishment of agricultural societies, in some measure similar to the institution of our own board, and actuated by the same laudable and benevolent spirit.

In the important science of inland navigation, we meet with no attempts equal to those in our own country; nor with many on that of external navigation entitled to very minute attention. S. Amoretti, the librarian of the Embrosian library at Milan, has touched upon the former in his "*Viaggio de Milano a tre Laghi, &c.*" "*Journey from Milan to the three Lakes, Major, Lageno, and Como, and the surrounding Mountains.*" His maps are clear and well designed, and his description of the lakes and rivers appears to be accurate as well as entertaining. Upon the latter subject we ought not to suppress from our notice "*The Journal of Andrew Ellicott, late Commissioner on behalf of the United States, during the Years 1796—1800, for determining the boundary between the United States and the Possessions of his Catholic Majesty in America.*" This work is replete with maritime observations of high interest and importance. The route pursued by Mr. Ellicott was from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, on the Ohio, the

extent of which river he coursed till its junction with the Mississippi: thence to Nanchez, whose inhabitants are described at some length, and apparently with much fidelity; from Nanchez to New Orleans, the island and city of which, it seems, forms no part of the territory ceded by France and Spain to North America; and from New Orleans along the guideline on the Mobile, through Pensacola, to the Chattahoochee. Our traveller lastly descended the river St. Mary, and returned home by the Carolinas. We have been particular in delineating this route, because it is little known to our English geographers; and a consultation of the book that contains it may furnish our chartists with much accuracy, as well as many valuable hints. Indeed we have seen no transatlantic maritime journal possessed of any thing like the merit of the present, since the publication of Mr. Mackenzie's *Voyage and Discoveries*. The following account of a symbolic intercourse between Mr. Nolan, who accompanied our author from New Madrid to Massao, and certain wild hordes of American Indians, whose oral language has never been studied by Europeans, is too curious to be pretermitted. Such a language by signs might in all probability be perfected by a little attention, and rendered highly useful to mankind at large. "While in our camp he observed a number of Indians who were from the west side of the Mississippi, and spoke to them in the several languages with which he was acquainted; but they could not understand him: he then addressed them by signs, to which they immediately replied, and conversed some time with apparent ease and satisfaction. This was

the first time I had either seen or heard of this curious language; and, being led by curiosity to speak to Mr. Nolan upon the subject, he informed me that it was used by many nations on the west side of the Mississippi, who could only be understood by each other in that way; and that it was commonly made use of in transacting their national concerns. A vocabulary of part of this curious language has been sent to the American Philosophical Society, by William Dunbar, esq. of the Mississippi territory and contains a much more particular account of it than I could give." Before we quit the department of geography we will mention that Mr. Pinkerton's valuable work upon this subject has been re-edited in Philadelphia, and with very considerable additions and improvements in those articles that relate to the United States, and the American continent at large, through the assistance of Dr. Barton, to whose abilities we have already paid a due tribute of respect: that in Germany new and very amended editions, including the latest discoveries, have appeared of the geographies of Fabri and Gaspari: and that at Paris a good geographic and statistic atlas of France, divided into its hundred-and-eight departments, arranged alphabetically, has been published under the direction and superintendence of the Messieurs Brion, father and son; while M. Mentelle, of the national institute, continues his voluminous work entitled "The Mathematical, Physical, and Political Geography of every Part of the World." This last is published in numbers, which have already completed not less than *eighteen* volumes, 8vo. independently of a supplementary atlas, which is in folio. It ap-

pears to possess the merit of accuracy and great research.

In the class of astronomy we observe that M. Burja has published the fourth volume of his comprehensive and valuable "Course" of this science; that M. Von Zach has opened a "Monathliche Correspondenz," for the purpose of circulating the earliest intelligence of all astronomic discoveries; which has the prospect of being ably conducted, and amply enriched from many of the best sources: and that baron Von Zach, director of the royal and endowed observatory of Seeburg, near Gotha, has presented to the public a very able and elaborate work in his "Astronomische der Sonne in Zeit, sur Verwandlung der Sternzeit in Mittlere Sonnenzeit," "Astronomic Tables of the mean and direct Ascension of the Sun in Time, for the Purpose of changing Stellar into mean Solar Time." To these solar tables are appended two supplements, and a catalogue of the fixed stars as completed in 1792, after minute attention to them for several years.

The department of architecture and perspective do not appear to have been much enriched by any distinct labours directed to them during the period before us; yet we perceive many valuable hints communicated in the "Sammlung Nützlicher aufsätze und Nachrichten die bankunst betreffend," "Collection of useful Tracts and Intelligence relative to the Science of Architecture," published annually by the royal board of architecture at Berlin; the communications of which have now extended to a fifth volume.

Military tactics have been far more productive. We cannot stay to notice all the publications on this subject which have fallen with-

in the range of our acquaintance. The following, however, we must not omit: "The Memorial Topographique, et Militaire, &c." "A Topographic and Military Memoir, published by the *Dépôt de la Guerre*." It is a periodical work, and the number before us, the first, contains various important contributions. A journal of this kind, properly conducted, might surely be successful at the present moment in our own country. Col. Von Gross has given us a treatise "*Über die Höhere Taktik*," "On Superior Tactics;" meaning the higher and more important branches of the science, in which, from an able survey of the military transactions of the last war, he points out a variety of changes which appear to have become ab-

solutely necessary. M. Seume, formerly an officer in the Russian service, already known by the production of several useful treatises, has in some measure followed the example of M. Mongéz, of the national institute, with respect to naval tactics, and in a dissertation, "*Über die Bewaffnung*," recommended the reintroduction of many of the weapons of the antients. Count de Rocheaymont has written a useful elementary book, entitled "*Introduction à l'Étude de l'Art de la Guerre*;" and professor Helwig of Brunswick, a more scientific and elaborate performance, which he has denominated "*Kriegspiel*," or "The Game of War;" a performance which extends to the whole scale of its operations, as well defensive as offensive.

### CHAP. III.

#### MORAL AND POLITICAL.

"**O**RIGINES Gauloises, celles des plus anciens Peuples de l'Europe puisée dans leur vraie Source," "Origin of the Gaulois, the most antient of the European Tribes, drawn from unquestionable Authority, by Latour d'Auvergne-Corret, chief Grenadier of the French Republic." This is a posthumous work; for the author, or pretended author, was killed in the battle of Eberkausen in 1800. The people to whom it refers are the Bas-Bretons, or inhabitants of Lower Bretagne, in the north-west corner of France, and were united to the French crown in 1532. There is no doubt that they were originally a branch of the common

family of the Cymri, who are generally supposed to have descended in a direct line from Gomer, whose name is easily convertible into this patronymic appellative. It is truly extraordinary, however, that the Lower Bretons constitute the only remain of a Cymric lineage on the continent: and it is hence doubtful whether this part of France was first peopled from Wales or Ireland, or afforded migrations to the two latter countries as from a parent stock. There is much fancy in the book before us, and but little substantial fact; and what is of more consequence, there is much error and confusion of tongues and nations. The writer has read

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about scalds and bards, about Ossian and the Edda, about Erse and Runic, Scandinavian and Gaëlic; but he has confounded the whole of his reading and researches in the most extraordinary manner we have ever met with. It possesses a vocabulary of simple Bretagne terms which seems, in a considerable degree indeed, to be drawn up from Pelletier, but is nevertheless useful in the way of comparison: against these simple terms, in the opposite column of the page, runs an equal vocabulary of Hebrew, Syriac, or Chaldaic words, from which the author supposes the former to be deduced; and in many instances it is probable he is correct.

A subject somewhat similar, but in many respects more comprehensive and elaborate, has been pursued by M. Picot, professor of history and statistics in the Genevan academy, under the title of "Histoire des Gaulois, &c.," "History of the Gauls from their Origin, till their Intermixture with the Franks, and the Commencement of the French Monarchy." The Gauls, properly so denominated, were a savage race occupying the central parts of France in a diagonal line, stretching from the Alps to the mouth of the Loire: towards the southern provinces dwelled the Aquitani or Basques: the quarter of the Lower Bretons we have already designated; while the Franks, who imposed a new name and race of kings on ancient Gallia, were seated along the Rhine and throughout Flanders. Our author has not entered into this geographic detail of the position of the different aboriginal tribes, so necessary to be exhibited in a work of this nature. In other respects, however, his labours will be found

highly useful, and indeed satisfactory; and especially in relation to the original customs, laws, religion, government, and language of the country. It extends to three volumes, 8vo.

M. Amheilhon, one of the ablest contributors to the memoirs of the national institute, is engaged in continuing M. Lebeache's "History of the Lower Empire, from the reign of Constantine the Great." Five-and-twenty volumes of this work are now published; but several yet remain to complete the design, as it has at present but barely reached the commencement of the republican form of government; and has consequently to record the splendours of the illustrious house of the Buonapartes.

M. Chauteau, the translator of Blair's Chronological Tables, has published an able work, entitled "The Science of History, containing a general System of the Knowledge which ought to be attained previously to the Study of History." Many of our modern historiographers would do well to consult it. From the pen of Vaublanc we have received the first volume of his "Rivalry of France and England, from the Conquest of the Island by William Duke of Normandy, till the Rupture of the Treaty of Amiens on the Part of England (par l'Angleterre)." It is enough to copy this title to show that the work it announces is expressly designed to exhibit an Anti-anglican spirit; a spirit which, in truth, is admirably sustained through almost every page we have glanced at. M. Lorio Ballors has given a more liberal performance in his "Annals of French and Foreign Statistics;" which, though far from being accurate in every point, contains a considerable por-  
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tion of genuine and valuable information. As does also M. Toulangeon's "History of France, from the Revolution of 1789;" which is unquestionably one of the best publications to which the eventful epoch referred to has yet given birth.

"*Histoire de Flibustiers, &c.,*" "History of the Bucaniers or Freebooters." This volume is translated from the German of M. d'Archenholtz, whose work has escaped our notice. The stock from which these flibustiers or freebooters originated, is to be found in the hunters of wild cattle in what was then Hispaniola, has since been St. Domingo, and is now the empire of Hayti: they were chiefly Normans, and accustomed to the rudest and most uncivilised manner of life. They were driven from their central possession of the island by the Spaniards, and were hence induced to engage in some other occupation. They accordingly confederated into a fraternity of pirates, and the coasts which they visited in their more early excursions were those of Cumana, Carthage, Porto-Bello, Cuba, and New Spain: they were assisted occasionally by the French and English, when at war with his most Catholic majesty, and often, in their various exploits, exhibited the most surprising energies both of body and mind; and their singular achievements, if they do not deserve the admiration of mankind, cannot be perused without the utmost astonishment. They were at length extirpated from the American seas and West Indian islands, chiefly by an English fleet under admiral Vernon; and many of them suffered death in Great Britain, to which they were transported, for piracy. The history before

us affords an able and comprehensive account of this extraordinary fraternity.

From the Vienna press we have received M. Reisser's "*Geschichte der Oesterreichischen Monarchie,*" "History of the Austrian Monarchy;" a monarchy that now exists no longer, having been merged into the vaster political gulf of an empire. The present work, though the trammels of a spirit in some degree subjected to the *powers that are*, are at times too obvious, will always be useful in informing the world of the *powers that have been*. The "*Geschichte des Oriens,*" "Antient and Modern History of the East," of M. Brehme, is chiefly designed for the explanation of the sacred scriptures; but in this country is considerably superseded by the labours of Mt. Harmer, and other biblical expositors of similar application. In Germany it may still have its use. The interesting republic (if so it may yet be called) of Switzerland has been largely celebrated by the pen of history. M. Meister, in his "*Helvetische Geschichte,*" has written its history during the last two thousand years: independently of a separate work, entitled "History of the late Swiss Revolution:" while M. Zschokke has engaged in a similar undertaking, and with considerable success, in his "*Memorabilia*" of the Helvetic Revolution. A "History of Sweden" has been composed with equal comprehension of plan and energy of diction, by M. Ruhs, of Greisswald: while M. Jekel has directed his labours, and not in vain, to a "History of Poland, anterior to its degrading Partition." The histories of distinct German principalities and electorates are too numerous for quotation: we shall therefore only observe, that a

"Compendium

"Compendium of the History of the German Empire at large," has been offered to the world by M. Breyer, of Jena; and a broad sketch of the history of the moral and political cultivation of Europe, more especially including the German empire, by M. Arnt, in his "Germanien und Europa."

Our tours, travels, journeys, and local descriptions are nearly innumerable; and it is difficult, confined as we are to such narrow limits, to attempt even a selection of what is before us. Professor Link, we perceive, has published a third volume of his well known "Travels through France, Spain, and a part of Portugal;" M. Fischer, who is also equally celebrated in our own country for his travels towards the same quarter, has likewise added another volume to his former work. M. Seume has given a picturesque and humorous "Walk (Spaziergang) to Syracuse," by the way of Prague, Vienna, Trieste, and Rome. The past and present state of Italy has been ably and accurately detailed in a periodical work by M. M. Rehfuß and Tschernen, who have lately visited it. M. Campe has published a "Tour through France and England," in which he at length pays that tribute of merit to the latter country which he withheld in a former work. M. Wichelhausen, who formerly practised physic at Moscow, has given us some instructing "Outlines" towards a picture of this city; which, at the same time combines much genuine and important information concerning the Russian empire at large; and M. Muller, another Russian physician, in his "Reise von Vollandhynia nach Cherson," has communicated, in a lively and

agreeable manner, the incidents of a "Journey from Vollandhynia to Cherson," performed in the year 1787.

In the "Quadro Storico di Milano," "Historic Picture of Milan antient and modern," we possess an useful introduction to all that is worthy of notice in this interesting city; as well in relation to its historic annals, as its present monuments, population, and public establishments.

The French tours and travels are nearly as numerous as those of Germany; but the most splendid which has reached us is M. Sköldebrand's "Voyage picturesque au Cap Nord," "Picturesque Tour to the North Cape," in 2 vols. large folio, embellished with various apparently very accurate maps and charts, and an abundance of exquisite engravings, in aquatinta, of the most interesting views in Sweden. It is curious to reflect, that of the different histories the republic of letters is yet possessed of these northern regions, the one has now been printed in *France* by a resident *German*; and the other in *England* by a resident *Italian*, we mean M. Acerbi. M. Bory de St. Vincent has published a quarto volume of "Essays on the Fortunate Islands, and the antient Atlantides; or a Summary of the general History of the Archipelago of the Canaries," being the result of observations made in the course of a voyage to the quarter in question; in which he allows himself as large a latitude of fancy as ever fell to the share of his learned and ingenious countryman M. Baillie upon the same subject, and offers an hypothesis equally untenable, and far less satisfactory. If, in reality, these wretched spots of barren earth constituted the antient *Hesperides*,

perides, and Elysian Fields, they must have sustained a change even greater than that supposed by volcanos in the book before us. But we believe we have yet to learn the actual site of Mount Atlas, and the golden gardens of the Hesperides. The volume is enriched with three moderate charts, and seven tolerable engravings. M. Bory has also favoured us with the result of his "Travels in the four principal Islands of the African Seas," in 3 vols. 8vo. and illustrated with fifty eight quarto plates, from drawings taken on the spot. These travels were performed by order of the French government in the years 1801, 1802, and contain a narrative of the passage of capt. Bannin to Port Lewis, in the *Mauritius*. The remarks on the natural history of the islands visited, are, in many respects, valuable; and particularly the botanical observations. M. Bourgoing's "*Tableau de l'Espagne Moderne*," long since translated into our own tongue, has reached a third, and very considerably corrected and improved edition. M. Fischer's "Travels" to the same country have also been rendered into French, and published as a companionable, but successive work to the above of M. Bourgoing: and the very excellent and valuable "*Voyage to Iceland*," undertaken, a few years since, by a society of literati, at the express command of the prince of Denmark, has been ably translated into the same language, in five volumes octavo, by M. Gauthier de la Peyronie, whose abilities the world has already estimated by his prior version of the Travels of M. Pallas.

The American press, in Mr. Adams's "*Letters on Silesia*, written during a Tour through that

Country in the Years 1800, 1801," has presented a work that may vie with many in the same line on this side the Atlantic. Mr. Adams is the eldest son of the late president of the United States; his letters are addressed to his brother Mr. Thomas Boylston Adams, at Philadelphia, and at the time of undertaking the tour they describe, he was minister plenipotentiary from the United States to the court of Berlin. We find nothing in them of a diplomatic tendency, with respect to modern affairs; little of a statistic nature; in both which respects we confess we have been considerably disappointed. But they offer a fair representation of the country traversed; and have occasional references to its civil establishments, as well as its situation both before and since the conquest of Frederic William. A hurried outline, indeed, of Silesian history is attempted in the second part of the letters; but it is chiefly drawn up from Kloeber. We have also received from the same quarter a volume of "*Letters from London*," written by Mr. Austin, during the two preceding years, in which the author was a resident in the British metropolis. They are sprightly, diversified, and by no means illiberal: and cannot fail of having been an acceptable present to the transatlantic circulating libraries. That we may not have to recross the Western ocean in the course of the present chapter, we shall add here, that in the department of law, Mr. Bayard, a barrister of acknowledged abilities, has drawn up an "*Abstract of the Laws of the United States*," which relate chiefly to the duties and authority of the judges of the inferior state-courts, and the justices of the peace throughout the Union;

Union;—a work much wanted, and well executed, and ably illustrated by extracts from the law-books of England.—And that Judge Cranch, of the circuit court of the district of Columbia, has published the first volume of his "Reports of Cases adjudged in the Supreme Court of the United States, in August and December Terms 1801, and February Term 1803." We trust so valuable a work will be persevered in. The department of trade and commerce offer us nothing of particular moment. An anonymous "Essay on the manufacturing Interest of the United States," is the best which has reached us upon this subject; but it is by no means a masterly performance.

The department of politics and statistics on the continent has been chiefly occupied with publications of temporary importance and duration; and especially in France. We have met with some, however, of a different description, or whose intrinsic merit entitles them to distinct enumeration. Of this class are the following "Caractere des Armées," &c. "Character of the different Armies of Europe in the present War; with a political parallel between the Power and the Resources of the Romans and French." This little volume has been sufficiently called for to be both re-imprinted, and translated into English, in our own metropolis.—"Precis Historique," &c. "Historical Summary of the French Revolution," by M. Lacroix, jun.; an accurate and impartial statement, developing several facts but little known even in this late hour of the day, "Statistique Générale et Particulière, &c." "Statistic History both General and Particular of France and its

Colonies," by a society of men of letters and science. Published by P. E. Herbin, 7 vols. 8vo. with an Atlas in 4to. Bulky as this work is, we have perused it, and with considerable satisfaction; it offers, in plain language and scientific arrangement, a topographical, physical, agricultural, political, æconomical, and commercial description of what is now the French empire. A list of M. Herbin's coadjutors is prefixed, and they are all men whose names are well known to the literary world. From Germany we have received M. Sörgel's "Geschichte des Verunglückten," &c. "History of the Destruction of the Balance of Power;" a useful work, though chiefly a compilation. M. von Proff's treatise "On the Separation of the legislative and executive Powers;" and a valuable posthumous work by M. Hippel of Königsburg, "On Legislation and the Prosperity of States." M. Schram is also entitled to the notice and gratitude of the public for his dissertation "On the Reformation and Improvement of public Schools, in a moral, literary, and political point of View."

In juridical science M. Fluerbach has published a valuable volume of "Civilistische Versuche," "Essays on Civil Law;" M. Thiebaut a highly useful "System des Pandecten-rechts," "System of Pandect-Law;" and M. Almendinger a book of elaborate and comprehensive "Enquiries relative to the Nature and Principle of Criminality in civil Societies; and of the Proportion which Punishments ought to bear to Crimes," in which various of the opinions of M. Fluerbach are ably attacked, and sometimes proved erroneous. France, amongst a vast multiplicity of works

works upon the same subject, has produced the first twenty numbers of the "Bulletin de l'Institut de Jurisprudence," &c. "Journal of the Institute of Jurisprudence and political Economy," a work of considerable extent, and profound indagation. We shall revert to it when it has made a further progress. M. Rayneval has given us a new edition of his "Institutions of the Law of Nature and Nations," a book well worth perusing by every civilian: and M. Le Gin has undertaken an "Analyse Raisonnée," &c. "A correct Analysis of the Law of France; with a Comparison of it to the Roman Law, the Custom of Paris, and the New Code." This work is to be periodical; one volume of it has only hitherto appeared, and it seems to prove the writer well qualified for his task.

Few men have laboured more severely of late years in the recondite science of ethics and metaphysics than M. Degerando. His elaborate and well digested work upon the antient systems of philosophy we have already had occasion to notice; and our attention is now called to his treatise "De la Generation des Connoissances Humaines," "On the Origin of Human Understanding;" a treatise which we cannot but commend, on account of the accuracy of its reasonings, as well as the justness of its conceptions, although we occasionally have the misfortune to deviate from the author *in limine*.—Aware, as we have long been, of the tendency of the more fashionable opinions lately encouraged among the German theologists, we were not prepared to ex-

pect a new version of the works of Spinoza, from the divines of the university at Jena; yet thus it has been, for professor Paulus has completed the undertaking, and thought that he could not be engaged in a more useful employment.

Education is a science which has of late been much studied on the continent. M. Schwartz's "Erziehungslere," or "Science of Education;" and M. Stephani's "System of Public Education," are both books of considerable merit. The opinions of M. Kant upon this important subject have been carefully collated and published by Dr. Rink, under the title of "F. Kant über Pädagogik:" while the ideas of Fichte have been communicated to the public, in some degree in a state of opposition to the former work, by M. Johansen, in his treatise "Über das Bedürfniss und die Möglichkeit," &c. "On the Want and Possibility of a Science of Pedagogics." In France one of the most useful works we have met with upon the same subject, though regarded in a different point of view, is "La Gymnastique de la Jeunesse," &c. "Gymnastics for Youth, or an Elementary Treatise on those Amusements which contribute to the exercise of the body considered in respect to their physical and moral utility;" by M. M. Durivier and Jauffret. M. Melchior, of Copenhagen, has published a judicious work, entitled "Comparatio inter commoda," &c. "Comparison of the Advantages and Disadvantages resulting from public and private Education," in which he thinks the choice must depend upon relative circumstances.

## CHAP. IV.

WE begin, as in our domestic retrospect, with the labours of the literary societies. The activity of the French National Institute appears to be in some measure impeded by the renewal of hostilities. We have already entered into a brief statement of its constitution, and division into three classes, of physical and mathematical, moral and political, literary and polite. Without entering into a catalogue of the different articles contained in the volume for the year, before us, published by each of these departments, we shall only observe, that two of the most entertaining or important appear to us to be the Memoir presented by a committee of the first class, consisting of M. M. La Place, Rochon, and Levesque, containing "Observations important to be made on the tides, in the different parts of the Republic;" and that presented by M. Le Breton, perpetual secretary of the third class, containing a general "Notice of its Labours."

The very able contributors to the "Annales de Chymie" have published their forty-seventh volume, which extends to No. 150; many of the articles are of peculiar importance: the best, as it appears to us, are those by M. Klaproth and M. Parmentier.

The Emulative Medical Society of Paris (Société Médicale d'Emulation) has published the fifth volume of its labours, which, instead of being directed to medical subjects alone, strictly so called, embraces a much ampler field, and pursues every branch of science that is in the remotest degree connected with it. There are four excellent

memoirs in it on the climate of the Antilles belonging to France, by M. Cassan, and a valuable letter, one of the last of his writings, by M. Fontana, on the disease of corn, denominated *Pergot*, as also on the *tremella*.

The annual volume of the Berlin society for natural history (Gesellschaft Naturforschender) has made its appearance, being the fourth in a regular series; but exhibits nothing that needs particular enumeration. The papers on Galvanism are of some importance towards this rising branch of modern experimental philosophy.

The Swedish academy (Svenska Akademien) has begun a republication of its labours in an octavo instead of a quarto form, for the sake of easier portability, and diminished expense. The first part of this new edition is the whole that has yet reached us: it contains the memoirs of the year 1786; the æra of its foundation. Whilst in this quarter of the continent, we will wander a few steps from our direct route to notice, that the indefatigable M. Olof, of Lindenburg, has at length published in quarto the first volume of his elaborate "Antiquitets Lexicon," "Dictionary of Antiquities," which is to contain a full account of the history, manners, institutions, religion, geography, coins, &c. of Greece and Rome. It will extend to at least five or six volumes, when completed.

The American philosophical society at Philadelphia has published the first part of the sixth volume of its "Transactions." A wide field is before it in the department of natural history and local geography,

phy, to which we trust it will turn its attention, rather than to subjects which have been satisfactorily discussed before, or may be, with perhaps better success, investigated by other societies. The historical society of the state of Massachusetts, has also published an additional volume, being the ninth, of its "Collections." It has now long set an example which we should like to see copied by other states of the American republic, as well in industry and judgment as in object of pursuit.

Without quitting this continent, we perceive, in the department of biography, several articles entitled to our attention. Of these, the first is "The Life of George Washington, Commander in Chief of the American Forces, &c. by John Marshall, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States." General Washington's papers have been intrusted for this purpose to the hands of Mr. Marshall very nearly from the period of his decease, and consequently the work before us has been long expected by the public. It is not, however, such as we could have exactly wished for. It is rather a history of the republic from its earliest rise than the biography of an individual. We well know the difficulty of separating the political transactions of the American states from the private life of its illustrious founder: it is necessary indeed that they should, *to a certain extent*, be associated: but what we object to, is the introduction of large masses of state papers and acts of congress, which might have been referred to alone, without being blended in the body of the work before us. To what extent a biography thus conducted may pul-

lulate we know not: two volumes are only yet before us, and they merely bring down the life of the general and the history of the republic to the year 1776.—"The Life of General Hamilton" has been cursorily given by a variety of biographers, and in a variety of shapes: of these *biogés*, Dr. Mason's appears to be the most accurate and elegant that has hitherto fallen into our hands. "The Life and Military Achievements of Toussaint Louverture, late General in Chief of the Island of St. Domingo," has also been published anonymously upon a small scale, but in strong impressive language, and with a view of exposing the deep criminality and perfidy of the French government. We believe it to be chiefly compiled from a similar work printed about three years since in our own country.

The late venerable and unfortunate chief pontiff has found an able biographer in S. Farrari, who had antecedently proved his abilities for this line of composition in his Lives of the Popes Clement XIII. and XIV., as also in various memoirs of the literati of the university at Padua. The work before us is in one volume, quarto, in the Latin language; and is designed as a continuation of Sandini's Lives of the Popes: it is however composed in far purer diction,—a diction indeed which may be truly styled classical. M. Moneron, already known to the world as an ardent admirer of English poetry, by his version of *Paradise Lost*, has now evinced a still stronger attachment to it by a "Life of its Immortal Author." The work is, for the most part, a judicious abridgment of Mr. Hayley's Biography. The eventful "Life of the



the Countess de Barré;" whose beauty and debauchery contributed so much to the general immorality of the court of Lewis XV., who from a workhouse became all *but* a queen, and died upon the scaffold for theft, has been detailed at considerable length by M. Favrolle, and occupies four volumes in twelves: while M. Fortunée Briquet, of the society of belles lettres and the athenæum of arts at Paris, has compressed into one volume, octavo, entitled "Dictionnaire Historique, Littéraire, et Bibliographique," "The Lives of all the French Women, as well as of Foreign Females naturalized in France, who have become celebrated by their Writings, or by the Patronage they have afforded to Men of Letters, from the Establishment of the Monarchy to the present Times." It is a sprightly sketch, and may be conveniently as well as pleasantly referred to.

B. Kant has been *biographized*, if we may be allowed the term, by various of his friends and pupils, and in a manner not often attempted among ourselves. Borowsky, Jachman, Woskiansky, and Kelch, have all tried their rival powers upon the same subject; while the last, with a view of triumphing over all his competitors in minuteness of detail, has given an analysis of his skull, upon the cranioscopic theory of Dr. Gall. M. Reuss, librarian of the Göttingen university, has followed up his "Gelehrtes England," or, "Literary England," by a supplement, in two volumes, entitled "Alphabetical Register of all the Authors in Great Britain and in the United Provinces of North America, with a Catalogue of their Works." M. Schlichtegroll still continues his "Necrolo-

gy and Biography:" the former is now nearly completed, extending to the close of the nineteenth century; while the latter, which comprises the more eminent or select characters alone, and is not designed to extend higher than to the beginning of the seventeenth century, has received about half its finish. M. Meusel has published a supplementary volume to his "Gelehrtes Deutschland," or "Literary Germany," including the *living* writers, and an account of their works; as also two additional volumes, making the fourth and fifth, of his "Lexicon of German Writers who died between the Middle of the Eighteenth and the Close of the Nineteenth Century."

Hungary, though not much enriched within the period of our lucubrations by individual biographies, is neither altogether deficient in this branch of literature, nor in its sister classes of antiquity and philology. M. M. Thibolt and Denis, in their "Catalogus Bibliothecæ," &c. "Catalogue of the Hungarian Library of Francis Count Szechenyr," of which only the first two parts of the first volume of this very extensive work are yet published, propose to give notices of all the Hungarian writers, as well as of all the works that even briefly or remotely relate to this kingdom. The preface to the volume before us, drawn up exclusively by M. Denis, is written with singular excellence and precision. M. Schedius, in his "Zeitschafft von und für Ungarn," "Journal of Hungary," has opened a miscellaneous work of great talent as well as of a very extensive field, so far as we can judge from the first two volumes, which are the whole that has yet reached us. It is for the

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most part, however, confined to Hungarian literature, although it allows to this its utmost latitude. A periodical work for speculative literary opinions has been opened by M. Sandor, of Raab, under the title of "Sokfélé Iras egybe szede Sandor István:" from the merit of the first eight numbers we hope it will prove successful. M. Schönwiesner, in his "Notitia Hungaricæ," &c. "Dissertation on Hungarian Coins and Medals from the earliest Period of the History of the Country to the present Time," has rendered an essential service to the numismatic antiquary:—the work is full and recondite. We perceive that a translation of the *Lælius* of Cicero; or *Book on Friendship*, has been ably translated into the Hungarian language by M. Virag, of Pest: who has also attempted the "*Horatius Poetikaga*," "*Poetics of Horace*," with a spirit and classical attention to the true rhythm of the Hungarian tongue, which cannot but induce us to wish that this elegant poet would add to the art of poetry, the *Odes*, *Satires*, and *Epistles* of the same exquisite writer. We will here mention, as we have omitted to do so in their proper place, that M. Horvath has published an able work, at Presburg, on the "*Statistics of the Kingdom of Hungary and the Countries annexed*:" M. Schwandter, a valuable "*Introduction to the Diplomatic Transactions*, principally Hungarian, of the *Middle Age*:" and M. Winterl, of Buda, an "*Introduction to the Chemistry of the Nineteenth Century*;" which evinces a competent knowledge of the improvements which have of late years been introduced into this science.

While in this quarter of the European

continent, we will notice also, that M. Stall, of Ofen, has at length published the first part of his *Latin, Italian, and Illyrian Dictionary*, which has occupied in its preparation not less than forty years of his life; that the work is printing at the expense of the university of Ofen; and that the author, who is now at Vienna, has been fortunate enough to obtain a pension from the Emperor. The dictionary follows the *Illyrian* language through its various dialects of *Servia*, *Bosnia*, *Bulgaria*, *Crontia*, *Sclavonia*, *Carniola*, and the *Windisch*: but does not at all times sufficiently discriminate. Neither ought we to omit observing, that in his "*Musa se Slowenskych*," "*Muse of the Sclavonian Mountains*," the author, M. Palkovitz, has begun a work which we trust he will be induced to continue. His poetry is truly pleasing and euphonous: and the dialect employed being equally related to the *Bohemian* and *Sclavonian*, it may be perused with equal ease by both countries.

Returning to Germany, we perceive that, in the mixt branches of philology and antiquity, M. Gräter, of Leipsic, under the title of "*Bräur*," has commenced a valuable periodical work, containing the mythology and philological antiquities of the Gothic nations. M. Kaiserlen has produced a "*History of Chivalry*," which cannot fail of affording entertainment and instruction: a second volume has been added to the "*Mythological Dictionary*" of M. M. Böthjer and Majer: M. Schleyermacher, professor at Halle, has commenced a translation of the entire works of Plato. M. Böttiger, in a work entitled "*Sabina, oder Morgensche-*

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nen in dem Puzzier einer Römerin," "Sabina; or Morning Scenes in the Dressing-room of a Young Lady," has also largely contributed towards an intimate knowledge of the private life of the Romans.

Homer, and most of the Greek dramatists have been either newly edited or commented upon. The best comments upon the former are those of Köppen; the best edition that of Göschen, of Leipsic, the editor of the splendid edition of Griesbach's New Testament. The Georgics of Virgil have been translated by M. Bock, who has nearly, if not altogether, rivalled the version of M. Voss. M. Alter has produced an elaborate "Treatise on the Tagalic Tongue;" M. Klaproth, of Weimer, a "Critical History of the Chinese Characters;" and M. Leichsteinstein, in his "Tentamen Palæographice-Assyrio Persicæ," an ingenious, though not altogether satisfactory illustration of the nail-headed or Persipolitan characters.

Germany has given us this year no epic production: the best effusions in the different classes of odes, elegies, pastorals, &c. which have occurred to us are those of Lindenmeyer, Schlegel, and Rosegarten. The best dramatists, independently of those already known, who have increased their stock of productions, Rambach, Röchelitz Collin, and Ziegler. The best novelists, Gerber, Schilling, Schink, and Selbiger.

Notwithstanding the death of M. La Harpe, a thirteenth and fourteenth volume of his "Lycee," or, "Course of Antient and Modern Literature" have already appeared from his posthumous papers, and a fifteenth is yet to be added. The

splendid work of "Le Musée Français," of which we spoke in our last retrospect, is still continued with unabated ardour. M. d'Olivet, under the title of "Le Troubadour," has made a valuable collection of Occitanic or Troubadour poems of the thirteenth century; to which he has also subfixed a neat version.

Under the title of "Erötopsie," M. Petit-Radel has given us a critical history of the amorous or *erotic* poetry of the Greeks and Romans, of which he has translated into French the more voluptuous passages. The volume, it must be confessed, has its merit—and it must be confessed also, that it was only worthy of the author of "The Loves of Pancharis and Zoroa. M. Emenard has been better engaged in a didactic poem, in eight cantos, entitled "La Navigation," which has acquired, and deservedly so, much popularity: it is manly in its sentiments, learned in its references, and correct, fluent, and ornamented in its diction. We wish it every success. "La Guerre des Dieux," by M. Parny, is an heroic poem in ten cantos, possessed of no other merit than that of good versification. It oversteps all the bounds of religion, and even simple morality; and is merely adapted to a land of atheists and debauchees. We perceive among the translations, a version of "Hesiod's Shield of Hercules," by M. Bruguiere, rendered with less elegance than verbal correctness; and an anonymous version of the *Æneid*, to which we apprehend that the friends of the writer will not speedily advise him to subfix his name. The best dramatic pieces are "Pierre le Grand," a tragedy, in five acts, by M. Car-

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rion-Nisas, which will probably be no longer exhibited; and "Le Séducteur Amoureux," by M. Longchamps, a rhyme-comedy, in three acts. The best novels are "Mémoires of Athanæsa," in four volumes, in twelves, by Mad. Guénard; "Le Philosophe de Charenton," "The Philosopher of Charenton," by the author of la Gastronomie, a satirical production against the race of misanthropes and melancholy philosophers; and "La Veuve de Catane," by M. de Laumay.

PRICES

N. B.—The highest and lowest Prices of each Stock in the course of any Month are put down in that Month.

1804.	Bank Stock.	3 p. ct. red.	3 p. ct. cons.	4 p. ct. cons.	5 p. ct. Navy.	5 p. ct. 1797.	Long Ann.	Short Ann.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	S Sea Stock.	Old Ann.	New Ann.	Exch. Bills.	Omn.	Irish 5 p. ct.	Imp. 3 p. ct.	Lottery Tickets.	Prizes.
Jan. {	155½ 145½	57 54½	56½ 55	73½ 70½	90 89½	95½ 90½	16½ 15½	3½ 3½	173½ 169	2 pr. 1 dis.		55½		3 1 pr.	5½ 2 pr.	84 81½	55½ 53½	20 0 17 9	98
Feb. {	155½ 151	56½ 54½	56 54½	73½ 71½	89 87½	94½ 92½	16½	3½	173½ 166½	2 pr. par.	61½ 59½	55½ 54½		3 1 pr.	2 4½ dis.	83	55½ 54½	17 7	98
March {	154 152½	56½ 55½	57½ 55½	73½ 72½	90½ 88½	94½	16½	3½	173 168½	1 pr. 3 dis.	63½ 61½	57½ 56	56½	2 pr. 1 dis.	¾ 3½ dis.	83½	56½ 54½	17 10	99½
April {	153 147	55½ 54½	56½ 54½		91 89½				170½ 167	par. 2 dis.	60½			1 pr. 2 dis.	1½ dis.	81½	55½ 54½	18 0 17 11	
May {	153½ 149½	56½ 54½	57 55½	72½ 71½	92½ 90½	95½	16½	3	172½ 170½	par. 2 dis.	61½			1 pr. 3 dis.	5 3½ pr.	85 82½	54½	25 0 18 0	98
June {	154½ 152½	55½ 54½		72½ 71½	92½	95½	16½	3	171 169½	1 4 dis.	60½	55½		1 5 dis.	4½ 2½ pr.	85 84½	53½ 53½		99
July {	157 154½	57½ 55½	58½ 56½	75½ 52½		98½ 96½	17½ 16½	3½	177 172	par. 3 dis.	63	56½ 55½		1 pr. 2 dis.	7½ 4½ pr.	86 84½	56½ 54½	17 17	99½
Aug. {	162	57½	58½ 56½	75½	92½ 91½	99½ 97½	17½	3½ 3½	177 175½	par. 2 dis.	63½ 61½	56½	56½	par. 2 dis.	7½ 6½ pr.	88½ 87½	56½	17 18	100
Sept. {	160½	57½	57½	75½	92½ 91½	99½	17½	3½	178 176	1 2 dis.	63 61½	57½	57½	1 dis.	7 6½ pr.		57½ 56½	18 0	
Oct. {	160	56½	57½	72½	90½				176½	par. 2 dis.		56½	56½	par. 2 dis.	7 3½ pr.	84½	56½	28 10 18 15	98
Nov. {	161 161½	57½ 56½	58½ 57½	74½ 72½	91½ 89½	99½ 97½	17 16½	2½	181 176	1 2 dis.		57	57½	1 dis.	8½ 6½ pr.	86½ 84½	56½	18 7	98½
Dec. {	162½ 166½	58½	58½	74½	90½	99½ 98½	17	2½	182	1½ dis.	64½	58½ 57½	58½	1 2 dis.	9 8 pr.	87½ 86½	57½ 56½	13 11	100











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